



THE FIFTH AFRICAN HIGHER EDUCATION WEEK AND RUFORUM BIENNIAL CONFERENCE 2016

Theme: Linking Agricultural Universities with Civil Society, the Private Sector, Governments and other Stakeholders in support of Agricultural Development in Africa



**Venue: Century City Conference Centre,
Cape Town, South Africa**

Dates: 17th - 21st October 2016

Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM)



Training the Next Generation of Scientists for Africa

Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM)

Plot 151/155 Garden Hill, Makerere University Main Campus

P.O. Box 16811 Kampala, Uganda,

Tel: +256 417 713300 (Office)

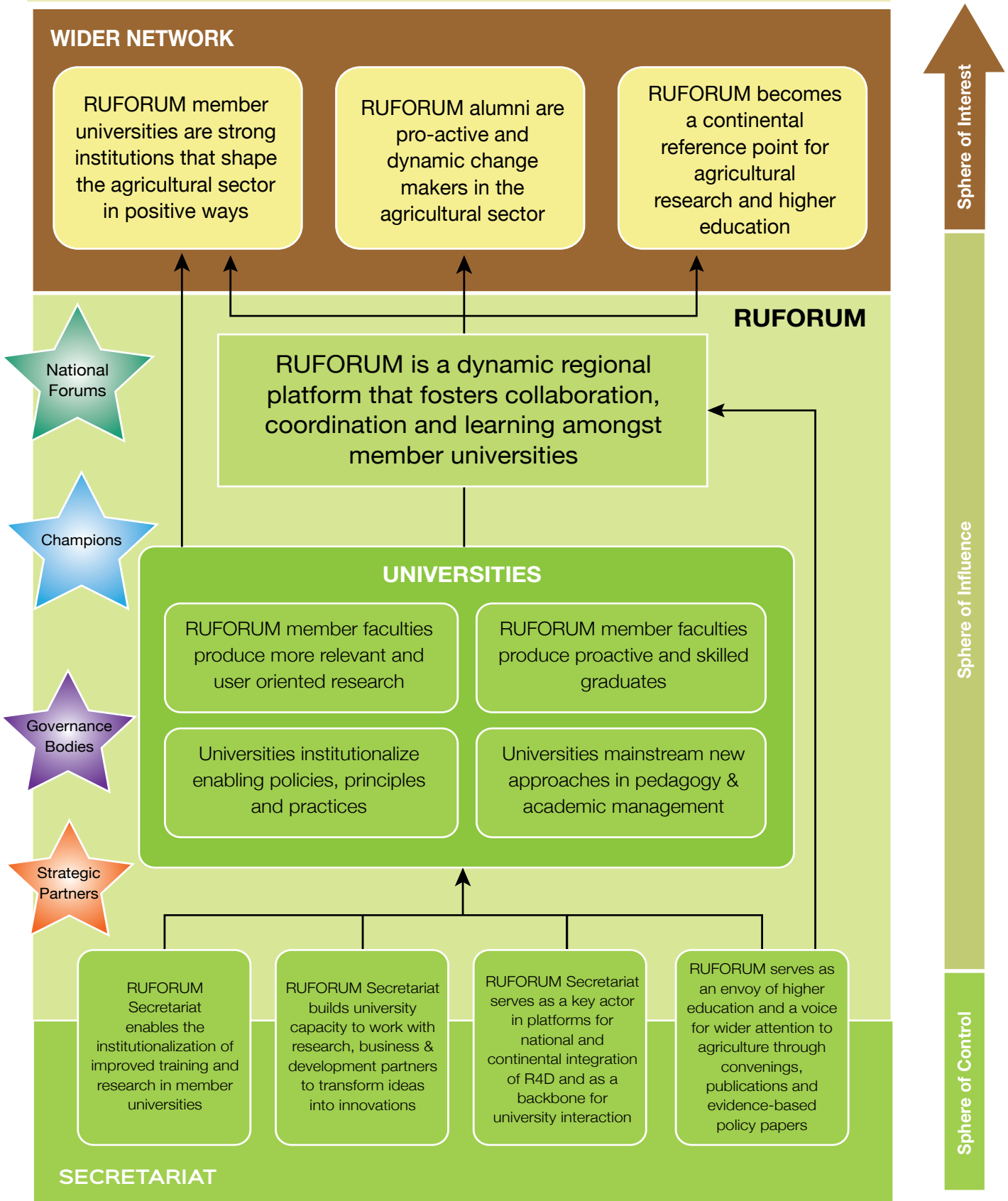
Email: secretariat@ruforum.org

Website: www.ruforum.org, <http://repository.ruforum.org>



RUFORUM Theory of Change

IMPACT STATEMENT: High Performing African universities that produce skilled, proactive graduates, demand driven research outputs and innovation in response to national, regional and continental agricultural development priorities



Welcome Message from the RUFORUM Board Chair

Prof. Mabel Opanda Imbuga

RUFORUM Board Chair and Vice Chancellor of Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology

It gives me great pleasure to warmly welcome you to the 5th Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference also known as the ‘Biennial Conference’ for which we are gathered here during 17th – 21st October 2016 at the Century City Conference Centre, Cape Town, South Africa under the Theme “Linking Agricultural Universities with Civil Society, the Private Sector, Governments and other Stakeholders in support of Agricultural Development in Africa.”

The main objective of the conference is to provide a platform for agricultural research for development stakeholders in Africa and beyond to actively exchange findings and experiences, while at the same time learning lessons towards improving performance of the agricultural sector and ultimately people’s livelihoods.

It is exciting to note and reflect on how this particular platform - The African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference has consistently attracted the interest and active participation of key stakeholders to two important sections in Africa; Agriculture and Higher Education Sectors. The Biennial Conference is RUFORUM’s most comprehensive meeting for the diversity of stakeholders in agriculture and higher education. It is especially dedicated to graduate students and their supervisors, grantees in RUFORUM member universities and alumni. It is a platform for peer review, quality control, mentorship, networking and shared learning. The ultimate aim of the 2016 RUFORUM Biennial Conference is to engage key stakeholders and explore opportunities for collaborations between Universities, Industry and other actors including policy makers. As the RUFORUM Network we firmly believe that this collaboration is critical for the sustained growth of African economies, a majority of which are heavily reliant on Agriculture. Of great significance is that the conference exposes young researchers to a professional gathering and provides avenues for strengthening communication and publications while keeping them aware of current trends on the African continent; including exposure to opportunities for engaging entrepreneurship. It provides opportunities to seasoned scientists to mentor and guide the younger scientists through discussions and deliberations. It also presents opportunity to create linkages among the diversity of stakeholders in agriculture. I call upon the scholars at different levels to listen carefully to the young entrepreneurs who will be recognised in the course of the week and learn from them or better still accompany them to further success.



Cape Town is an exciting, highly diverse and overall beautiful city near the southern most tip of Africa. Please have an enjoyable stay as you work through a loaded, exciting and well designed programme that has a lot to learn from. On behalf of the RUFORUM Board and the entire network, I once again welcome you to the 5th RUFORUM Biennial Conference, I wish you great deliberations and networking.



“The Biennial Conference is RUFORUM’s most comprehensive meeting for the diversity of stakeholders in Agriculture and High Education ”



Vice Chancellors Vision for RUFORUM



“Transforming agriculture in Africa requires innovative scientific research, educational and training approaches. The education sector needs to be more connected to the new challenges facing rural communities and needs to build capacity of young people to be part of the transformation of the agricultural sector.”

Our Motivation, further reinforced by the Science Agenda for Agriculture in Africa



FOREWORD

Continued Engagement to Build and Sustain Momentum for Enhanced Contribution of Universities in Africa to Socio-economic Development

Once every two years, the RUFORUM Network organizes an Africa-wide week-long conference with the aim of fostering networking among its member universities and to link universities to other actors in the two important sectors that relate to the Network mandate and interest; i.e., the Agricultural and Higher Education Sectors. The week-long conference is now institutionalized in the Network's calendar as the "Africa Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference" generally referred to as the RUFORUM Biennial Conference. The 4th RUFORUM Biennial Conference was held 19 – 25 July 2014 in Maputo, Mozambique and was dedicated to celebrating a decade of the Network's engagements in supporting Agricultural Higher Education. This was a key milestone for RUFORUM and higher education in Africa especially since it marked greater commitment to higher education on the part of National Governments and key continental institutions led by the African Union Commission. As a Network, RUFORUM also conducts Annual General Meetings (AGM), and as a follow up to the 2014 Biennial Conference, we held the 11th AGM in Windhoek, Namibia in August 2015.

The two events (2014 Biennial Conference and the 11th AGM) crafted and endorsed the current RUFORUM Strategic Business Plan which has served to hone the RUFORUM Goal, provided more clarity and made it more manageable and helped bring more visibility to our operations. Stakeholders in Higher Education and Agricultural Sector can now draw hope and move forward compellingly towards contributing to key continental frameworks, especially the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) and Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA 2024). Higher education institutions are now viewed by many as playing a key role in delivering the knowledge requirements for development.

Research has, for example, suggested a strong association between higher education participation rates and levels of development. While higher education participation rates in many high-income countries are well over 50%, in sub-Saharan Africa they are in most cases below 5%.

Furthermore, there is increasing evidence that high levels of education in general, and of higher education in particular, are essential for the design and productive use of new technologies, while they also provide the foundations for a nation's innovative capacity, and contribute more than any other social institution to the development of civil society.



The overall theme and focus for the 2016 Fifth Africa Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial is "Linking Agricultural Universities with Civil Society, the Private Sector, Governments and other Stakeholders in support of Agricultural Development in Africa." It is inspired by the tenants of the RUFORUM 2015 – 2020 RUFORUM Strategic Business Plan which recognizes that while universities were once described as "ivory towers", this has since changed and universities are increasingly becoming more embedded in society.

With this recognition comes the new pressure on universities, - to provide specialized training to now more students; develop and transfer technologies to industry; and, respond to numerous societal needs. Accordingly, universities are increasingly re-orienting their programs and undertakings more directly towards supporting accelerated achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

RUFORUM engagements with the STISA as a lead implementer of Pillar 1 on "Eradication of Hunger and Poverty" has illuminated the issue of complexities in Agricultural Research for Development and the linkages with other sectors including Energy and infrastructure and highlights the important role of higher education. It also further emphasizes the need for functional partnerships that cut across key sectors in the Development Frameworks and for delivering Agenda 2063 'The Africa We Want'. Capacity building, research and training remain very critical to Africa's development.

For the Activity Year 2015/2016, the RUFORUM Network has witnessed important milestones that point to the fact that higher education is firmly back on the continental Agenda. For example,

in 2015 the African Union created a Committee of 10 African Heads of State and Government to champion Education, Science and Technology development in Africa. The second example and a very important landmark for higher education in Africa is the establishment of 24 Higher Education Centers of Excellence in Eastern and Southern Africa by the National Governments through Development Assistance from The World Bank. With the earlier established Centres, there are now 43 Higher Education Centres of Excellence in the Eastern, Southern, Central, and West Africa sub-regions. These and other developments bring more hope for higher education in Africa and the promise to deliver, as well as contribute knowledge to accelerate achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. The 2016 RUFORUM Biennial presents a platform for the over 800 participants to discuss and

generate actions that will strengthen higher education in Africa. The Conference is designed to bring together key development partners and stakeholders including Vice Chancellors from agricultural universities, university staff and students, private sector and civil society representatives, policy makers including from the African Union Commission and member countries, Regional Economic Communities and Sub-regional organizations, development partners, as well as other actors. The deliberations will inform our future thrusts, and we will share the outcomes as widely as possible

Prof. Adipala Ekwamu
Executive Secretary

AVANT-PROPOS

Engagement Soutenu à Construire et à Maintenir l'Élan pour une Contribution Étendue des Universités en Afrique pour le Développement Socio-économique

Une fois tous les deux ans, le Réseau RUFORUM organise une conférence d'une semaine à l'échelle africaine dans le but de renforcer l'interconnexion entre ses universités membres et de relier les universités à d'autres acteurs dans les deux secteurs importants qui se rapportent au mandat du réseau ainsi que son intérêt; à savoir, les secteurs de l'Agriculture et de l'Enseignement Supérieur.

La conférence qui dure une semaine est maintenant institutionnalisée dans le calendrier du Réseau comme la "Semaine de l'Éducation Supérieure en Afrique et la Conférence Biennale de RUFORUM" généralement appelée la Conférence Biennale de RUFORUM. La 4^{ème} Conférence Biennale de RUFORUM a eu lieu du 19 - 25 Juillet 2014 à Maputo, au Mozambique et a été consacrée à la célébration d'une décennie des engagements du Réseau dans le soutien agricole et de l'enseignement supérieur.

Ce fut une étape clé pour RUFORUM et l'enseignement supérieur en Afrique en particulier, car elle a marqué un plus grand engagement à l'enseignement supérieur de la part des gouvernements nationaux et les institutions continentales clés dirigées par la Commission de l'Union africaine. En tant qu'un réseau, RUFORUM mène également des assemblées générales annuelles (AGA), et dans le cadre du suivi de la Conférence Biennale de 2014, nous avons tenu la 11^{ème} assemblée générale annuelle à Windhoek, en Namibie, en Août 2015. Les deux événements (la Conférence Biennale de 2014 et la 11^{ème} AGA) ont conçu et approuvé le Plan d'Affaires Stratégique actuel de RUFORUM qui a

servi à perfectionner l'Objectif de RUFORUM, fourni plus de clarté et rendu le réseau plus gérable, et contribué à apporter plus de visibilité à nos activités. Les parties prenantes de l'enseignement supérieur et du secteur agricole peuvent maintenant tirer espoir et aller de l'avant de façon convaincante vers la contribution à des cadres continentaux clés, en particulier le Programme Détaillé de Développement de l'Agriculture Africaine (PDDAA) et la Stratégie pour la Science, la Technologie et l'Innovation en Afrique (STISA-2024).

Les établissements d'enseignement supérieur sont maintenant considérés par plusieurs personnes comme jouant un rôle clé dans la provision des connaissances requises pour le développement. La recherche a, par exemple, suggéré une forte corrélation entre le taux de participation aux études supérieures et le niveau de développement. Alors que les taux de participation à l'éducation supérieure dans de nombreux pays à haut revenu sont plus de 50%, en Afrique sub-saharienne, ils sont dans la plupart des cas inférieurs à 5%. En outre, il est de plus en plus évident que des niveaux élevés d'éducation en général et d'enseignement supérieur en particulier, sont essentiels pour la conception et l'utilisation productive des nouvelles technologies, pendant qu'ils fournissent également les bases d'une capacité d'innovation d'une nation, et contribuent plus que toute autre institution sociale au développement de la société civile.

Le thème général et l'orientation de la Cinquième Semaine de l'Éducation Supérieure en Afrique et de la Conférence Biennale

Continued Pg. 8 ➔

From Pg. 5 

de RUFORUM de 2016 est «Relier les Universités Agricoles avec la Société Civile, le Secteur Privé, les Gouvernements, et les autres Parties Prenantes dans l'Appui du Développement Agricole en Afrique»; Il est inspiré par les orientations du Plan d'Affaires Stratégique de RUFORUM 2015 - 2020 qui reconnaît que, bien que les universités étaient autrefois décrites comme des «tours d'ivoire», cela a changé et que les universités sont de plus en plus intégrées dans la société.

Cette reconnaissance s'accompagne d'une nouvelle pression sur les universités, - de fournir une formation spécialisée maintenant à plus d'étudiants; développer et transférer des technologies à l'industrie; et répondre aux nombreux besoins de la société. Par conséquent, les universités sont en train de réorienter leurs programmes et leurs activités plus directement vers le soutien de la réalisation accélérée des objectifs de développement durable (ODDs).

L'engagement du RUFORUM avec la STISA en tant que réalisateur principal du Pilier 1 concernant "L'éradication de la faim et la pauvreté" a illuminé la question de la complexité de la recherche agricole pour le développement et les liens avec d'autres secteurs, y compris l'énergie et l'infrastructure et mettent en évidence le rôle important de l'enseignement supérieur. Il insiste également davantage sur la nécessité des partenariats fonctionnels entre tous les secteurs clés des cadres de développement et pour atteindre l'Agenda 2063 'L'Afrique que Nous Voulons ». Le renforcement des capacités, la recherche, et la formation restent très critiques pour le développement de l'Afrique.

Pour l'Année d'activités 2015/2016 le Réseau RUFORUM a été témoin des étapes importantes qui pointent vers le fait que l'enseignement supérieur est fermement de retour sur l'agenda continental. Par exemple, en 2015 l'Union africaine a créé un Comité des 10 Chefs d'Etat et de gouvernement pour défendre l'éducation, la science et le développement de la technologie en Afrique. Le deuxième exemple et un point de repère très important pour l'enseignement supérieur en Afrique est la mise en place de 24 centres d'éducation supérieure d'excellence en Afrique orientale et australe par les gouvernements nationaux à travers l'aide au développement de la Banque mondiale.

Avec les centres établis plus tôt, il y a actuellement 43 centres d'enseignement supérieur d'excellence dans les sous-régions de l'Est, du Sud, Centrale, et de l'Ouest de l'Afrique. Ceux-ci ainsi que d'autres développements apportent plus d'espoir pour l'enseignement supérieur en Afrique et la promesse de pourvoir, et contribuer à la connaissance nécessaire pour accélérer la réalisation des objectifs de développement durable.

La biennale de RUFORUM de 2016 présente une plate-forme pour plus de 800 participants pour discuter et générer des actions qui permettront de renforcer l'enseignement supérieur en Afrique. La Conférence est conçue de manière à réunir les partenaires et les intervenants clés du développement, y compris les recteurs des universités agricoles, le personnel universitaire et les étudiants, le secteur privé et des représentants de la société civile, des décideurs politiques, y compris de la Commission de l'Union africaine et les pays membres, les Communautés économiques régionales et des organisations sous régionales, des partenaires de développement, ainsi que d'autres acteurs. Les délibérations informeront nos futures orientations, et nous partagerons les résultats aussi largement que possible.

Prof. Adipala Ekwamu
Secrétaire Exécutif
Courtage

Table of Contents

RUFORUM Coming of Age	10
Briefing Note on the RUFORUM Fifth Biennial Conference	11
Conference Programme	18
Detailed Schedule for Parallel Sessions	28
List of Poster Presentations	38
List of RUFORUM Member Universities	154

RUFORUM Biennial Conferences

The African Higher Education Week

Strengthening African Higher Education to contribute to development

800 Participants Expected

5th Biennial Conference to be held in Cape Town, South Africa
 Dates: 17th – 21st October, 2016
 Host: Agricultural Research Council & Stellenbosch University
 Theme: Linking Universities with Private Sector, Governments and other Stakeholders in support of Agriculture Development in Africa

What to expect: Enhancing university engagement with Private Sector, Civil Society and CGIAR

670 Participants from 45 Countries

4th Biennial Conference held in Maputo, Mozambique
 Dates: 19th - 25th July, 2014
 Host: Eduardo Mondlane University
 Theme: Transforming Tertiary Agricultural Education
 A Platform for the Way Forward

Outcomes:

- Linking Universities to policy at African Union Commission (AUC) level
- Launch of RUFORUM Graduate Teaching Assistantship Programme (GTA)

600 Participants from 48 Countries

3rd Biennial Conference held in Entebbe, Uganda
 Dates: 24th - 28th September, 2012
 Host: Makerere University
 Theme: Partnerships and Networking for Strengthening Agricultural Innovation and Higher Education in Africa

Outcomes: Engaging with MasterCard Foundation to support undergraduate and MSc training in African Universities

380 Participants from 25 Countries

2nd Biennial Conference held in Entebbe, Uganda
 Dates: 20th - 24th September, 2010
 Host: Makerere University
 Theme: Building Capacity for Food Security in Africa

Outcomes: Integrating universities within the National Agricultural Innovation Systems

280 Participants from 22 Countries

1st Biennial Conference held in Mangochi, Malawi
 Dates: 23th - 27th April, 2007
 Host: LUANAR
 Theme: Building Scientific and Technical Capacity through Graduate Training and Agricultural Research in African Universities

Outcomes: Bringing Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) support to African Higher Education in Agriculture

A brief about the Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference, 17th - 21th October, 2016

Theme: Linking Agricultural Universities with Civil Society, the Private Sector, Governments and other Stakeholders in support of Agricultural Development in Africa

Summary

RUFORUM is a network of 60 African Universities with mission to strengthen the capacities of universities to foster innovations responsive to demands of smallholder farmers through the training of high quality researchers, the output of impact oriented research and the maintenance of collaborative working relations among researchers, farmers, national agricultural research institutions and governments. The RUFORUM Fifth African Higher Agricultural Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference, 17-21 October 2016 in Cape Town South Africa along the theme "Linking Agricultural Universities with Civil Society, the Private Sector, Governments and other Stakeholders in support of Agricultural Development in Africa".

The Conference brings together over 600 participants to discuss and recommend how to strengthen higher agricultural education in Africa. The meeting brings together key development partners and stakeholders including Vice Chancellors from agricultural universities, university staff and students, private sector and civil society representatives, policy makers including from the African Union Commission and member countries, Regional Economic Communities and Sub-regional organisations, development partners, members of the press and others. The meeting co-organised by RUFORUM, Agricultural Research Council (ARC), Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa (CCARDESA) and the six RUFORUM member universities (Stellenbosch University, University of KwaZulu-Natal, University of Venda, University of Pretoria, University of Fort Hare, and University of the Free State). The African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference is held once every two years.

Background

African countries have shown strong economic performance during the last decade. From 2002 to 2008, Average GDP growth in Africa was 6.4 percent (World Bank, 2015) with this trend continuing into 2015. Improved democratisation, governance, and the increased role of the private sector, has underpinned this improved performance. The contribution of agriculture to GDP in Africa remains high, on average contributing over 30%. The World Bank (2013) projects that by 2030, agriculture and agribusiness will have grown to a US\$1 trillion business, from a current US\$313 billion today and should be a priority concern for the development agenda on the Continent. The centrality of Agriculture to development efforts in Africa was underscored in 2003 as African leaders agreed to implement continent wide the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) as a framework for development. CAADP calls for a 6% annual increase in agricultural output.

To support the CAADP process, leaders agreed to enhance investments in the agricultural sector, by allocating a minimum of 10% of their budgets towards the strengthening of the agricultural sector and development. In 2014, African leaders recommitted to the CAADP through the Malabo Declaration. The Malabo Declaration commits to 1) the principles and values of the CAADP Process; 2) commitments to enhance investments to finance agriculture and to end hunger by 2025 (the last through sustainable agricultural production and marketing); 3) to halve postharvest losses by 2025; and 4) to halve poverty by 2025 through agricultural transformation.

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) is an association of 60 African Agricultural Universities who recognise the important role but largely unfulfilled role that universities can play to support development in Africa. RUFORUM envisions 'a vibrant agricultural sector linked to African universities that can produce high-performing graduates and high-quality research, responsive to the demands of Africa's farmers for innovations, and able to generate sustainable livelihoods and national economic development'. RUFORUM 'modus operandi' is to strengthen agricultural development by:

1. Building an effective platform for University support to smallholders by enabling the University community to contribute to the productivity of small-scale producers and the value chains that serve them. This platform also serves to provide direct links into the national research and policy nexus.
2. Realize economies of scale and scope that link national capacities regionally, rationalizing resource use and promoting international standards of excellence.
3. Engaging University actors along the whole value chain, including sister organizations and the private sector in mutually beneficial research and training to accelerate delivery of agricultural science-based innovations.
4. Increasing participation and voice of women in higher education and activity along the value chain.
5. Scaling RUFORUM best practices through a) building lessons into academic teaching, b) working with partners in selected countries, including the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation anchor countries to spread findings through their networks both geographically and along value chains and c) taking on a visionary/advocacy role at the continental level.

Introduction

According to UNECA (2015) two primary challenges facing the African continent are how to accelerate strong economic growth and how to transform growth to productivity-induced sustainable, inclusive, employment-generating, poverty-reducing, and environmentally-friendly growth. Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) is an important vehicle for harnessing agriculture for development, enhancing competitiveness and responding to current challenges being faced by Africa.

This is the key underpinning to the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa, 2024 (STISA). The STISA contributes directly to Africa's Agenda 2063, by mainstreaming the use of science, technology and innovation for development. STISA thus recognises the importance of higher education as an underpinning for achieving Agenda 2063 to deliver quality and relevant graduates to support production, industrialisation and development. STISA outlines its prerequisite actions as requiring that AUC "member states continue to expand availability of quality post graduate education and in particular programmes leading to doctoral qualifications".

African universities are thus tasked to enhance their responsiveness to modern day demands to produce the new African graduates to support development. More recently, there has been greater awareness on the actual and potential returns to higher education which is estimated to be much higher in SSA than other parts of the World, at about 20% (World Bank, 2015).

Higher Education challenges in Africa include low enrolment (averaging less than 10% gross enrolment compared to global average closer to 30%), limited funding, poor institutional governance and leadership, inadequate infrastructure for teaching, learning and research and quality assurance and low scientific output (USAID, 2014; World Bank, 2009; Adipala et al., 2014) among others. Universities are also criticised for their inability to respond to the current challenges being faced by rural small scale farmers in Africa, who make up majority (over 70%) of Africa's population. The relevance of university outputs (graduates and technologies) has been expressed as a concern from consumers of university products. Higher education requires a much closer engagement with the private sector to enhance its significance to society and transformation away from the traditional role of universities in Africa. Engagement of higher education with the private sector remains critical for a number of reasons:

1. The private sector is increasingly the primary employer of African graduates, as employment opportunities in the public sector shrinks. Future employment opportunities should target the private sector;
2. The Private sector presents an opportunity for diversifying funding sources for higher education and strengthening its relevance including by providing greater role for experiential learning through for example, internships in student training;

3. The Youth bulge in Africa is a potential driver for economic growth in Africa, but only if graduates will have the entrepreneurial skills to harness opportunities for income generation and can drive growth. Private sector engagement will enhance universities' capacity to meet these needs.

The 2016 African Higher Education Week & RUFORUM Biennial Conference

RUFORUM organises the African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference (hereafter, Biennial Conference) to 1) collaboratively with stakeholders review African agricultural university performance and obtain feedback including from policy makers; 2) provide a platform for sharing of best practices and reforms within the higher education sector, from across the globe, but also within RUFORUM member universities; 3) build professional 'communities of practice' that engage postgraduates students, universities staff, and stakeholders to improve value chains and higher education contribution to farm incomes; and 4) provide a platform for students to share their research work and also identify mentors and other opportunities for their transitions out of school, into employment or entrepreneurship.

The Biennial Conference is RUFORUM's most comprehensive meeting for the diversity of stakeholders in agriculture. It is especially dedicated to graduate students and their supervisors, grantees in RUFORUM member universities and alumni. It is a platform for peer review, quality control, mentorship, networking and shared learning. The ultimate aim of the 2016 Biennial Conference is to improve smallholder agriculture in Africa. The overall theme of the 2016 Conference is "Linking Agricultural Universities with Civil Society, the Private Sector, Governments and other Stakeholders in support of Agricultural Development in Africa".

The 2016 Biennial Conference will purposely designed to enhance linkages among universities (leadership, lecturers and students), governments, the private sector, civil society and policy makers for increased investments and partnership to enhance contribution of the HAE sector to development. The Conference provides opportunity to hear directly from the Private Sector on their demands related to how the Higher Education Sector can better contribute towards their business processes. The Private sector will also be engaged to share how they can better engage, including directing portion of their social responsibility towards higher education. Universities will solicit for feedback from the private sector on training, research and outreach initiatives and on best practices to engage other stakeholders.

The Conference will expose young researchers to a professional gathering, their potential employers, and will provide avenues for strengthening communication and publications while keeping them aware of current development trends on the African continent. It will provide opportunities to seasoned scientists to mentor and guide the younger scientists through discussions and deliberations. The 2016 RUFORUM Biennial Conference presents opportunity to create linkage among the diversity of stakeholders in agriculture.

Thus, the specific objectives of the conference are to:

- a) Identify appropriate models and approaches to strengthen engagement between the private sector, policy and Higher Education Institutions
- b) Link graduate research and training to potential employers for a better understanding of the context they will work in
- c) Develop strategies for increasing government, National Agricultural Research Systems and Private Sector support to HAE
- d) Showcase RUFORUM students' research and other cutting edge research in Africa
- e) Provide a networking platform for Higher Agricultural Education actors, globally with focus on African HAE

Building on the overall theme of the Conference, the following topical issues are featured in the daily programme and underpin the conference deliberations:

1. Public private partnerships: a driver for higher education for market pathways and product uptake
2. Innovation for sustainable systems within value chains that improve smallholder incomes;
3. Building capacity for university research, outreach and community engagement: Integrating universities into national agricultural innovation systems
4. Academic mobility, quality assurance and credit transfer across the continent: the game changers

The conference sub- themes in the parallel sessions are outlined below:

1. Partnerships and Innovations to Strengthen Higher Education in Africa
2. Strengthening ICT and knowledge management in Agriculture
3. Strengthening University outreach, community engagement and innovation platforms
4. Sustainable Environment and Natural Resources Management
5. Sustainable intensification within smallholder crop value chains
6. Sustainable intensification within smallholder livestock value chains
7. Marine Science and Blue Economy – Fisheries and Aquaculture
8. Reducing postharvest losses
9. Postharvest losses, Agricultural Marketing Pathways, Product Uptake, Trade and Policy
10. Strengthening gender mainstreaming to enhance agricultural productivity
11. Addressing Risk Associated with Climate Change and Variability in Agricultural Systems

Conference Approach

The Conference aims to provide a platform for sharing experiences and lessons among Higher Agricultural Education stakeholders towards strengthening Higher Agricultural Education in Africa. The focus is on postgraduate training and research and entails the active participation of postgraduate students, Vice Chancellors, Principals, Deans, and partner institutions representing research, extension and the private sector.

At a glance, the conference programme features plenary keynote presentations and discussions, with opportunity for key respondents, panel discussions, plenary discussions, parallel thematic sessions, poster displays, exhibitions as well as side events on issues of interest to scientists, developmental partners, policy makers and private sector of relevance to higher agricultural education. Best poster and oral presentations will be recognised and awarded as higher education achievers in Africa. The Conference is co-organized with the Agricultural Research Council (ARC), Centre for Coordinating Agricultural Research in Southern Africa (CCARDESA), and six RUFORUM member universities in South Africa namely Stellenbosch University, University of Free State, University of Fort Hare, University of KwaZulu-Natal, University of Pretoria and University of Venda at the Century City Conference Center in Cape Town, South Africa from 17-21 October, 2016. RUFORUM will work together with partner universities (through other South African universities, AGRINATURA - Europe; and the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities- USA) and other partners.

Key note presentations provide syntheses and key lessons for improving higher education in Africa. Keynote papers will be delivered in plenary sessions on broad thematic areas relevant to the meeting overall theme. Respondents are expected to provide additional input into key note papers. Other formats, including roundtable discussions, panel discussions and group work sessions will be used to solicit for interventions and ideas to enhance agricultural training in Africa. Organised in parallel sessions will be the scientific conferences where students and other researchers across Africa have opportunity to showcase cutting edge research and innovations in sustainable agricultural systems, value chains and training. Exhibitions and poster sessions shall be organised to showcase best practices in the thematic areas of the conference. The Conference also plays host to several awards including the GCHERA World Agriculture Prize 2016, held in Africa for the first time and the inaugural Young African Agri-preneurs Award (YAAA). Outputs from the Conference shall be consolidated and participants will agree on a Communique outlining the outcomes of the Conference that will include a forward looking component towards linking agricultural universities to the private sector in Africa in the context of STISA 2024.

The following are the expected outcomes of the Conference:

- A Conference Communique highlighting key recommendation to stakeholders on strengthening higher agricultural education in Africa
- Mechanism for strengthening partnerships and collaboration between universities, private sector institutions and policy makers identified for piloting
- Cutting edge research results and relevant research in Africa profiled
- Graduate students provided with a platform to engage with practitioners to strengthen communities of practice

For more information about the Biennial Conference please contact: RUFORUM Secretariat– Dr. Moses Osiru Email: biennial@ruforum.org with copy to m.osiru@ruforum.org.

About the Biennial Conference Organisers

RUFORUM is an association of 60 Universities in 25 countries in sub-Saharan Africa which envisions 'a vibrant agricultural sector linked to African universities which produce high performing graduates and high quality research responsive to the demands of Africa's farmers for innovations and able to generate sustainable livelihoods and national economic development'.

RUFORUM also has collaborating partners in West Africa beyond its member Universities in Benin, Ghana and Nigeria through the inclusion of students from several West African countries (including Liberia, Mali, Senegal and Togo) in the Network's regional PhD and MSc programmes. Significantly, an MOU with the Africa Union Commission (AUC), signed in 2014, serves to reinforce the framework for aligning capacity building activities and developing research and development goals for Africa. Through the MOU, the AUC has mandated RUFORUM to facilitate and coordinate work in the area of higher education in agriculture, and its relationship to science, technology and innovation on the continent.

www.ruforum.org

The **Agricultural Research Council (ARC)** is the principal agricultural research institution in South Africa; whose mandate is to conduct research, development and technology transfer in order to contribute to the improvement of the quality of life of the people of South Africa. It is a state-owned institution within the National System of Innovation, deriving its mandate from the department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and the department of Science & Technology. It serves as the primary implementation agent for government initiatives and programmes in order to: promote sustainable and equitable economic participation in the agricultural sector; promote agriculture development and growth in related industries; facilitate sector skills development and knowledge management; facilitate and ensure natural conservation; promote national food security; and contribute to better quality of life.

The ARC has 873 (2014-15) researchers and published over 400 scientific publications in the 2015/16. For more information about the ARC, please visit our website: www.arc.agric.za Twitter:@ARCSouthAfrica

The **Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa (CCARDESA)** (www.ccardesa.org) is a Sub-Regional Research Organisation (SRO) established in 2010 by Member States of the Southern African Development Community (SADC). Its headquarters are in Gaborone, Botswana. It is a subsidiary organization of SADC and has the mandate of coordinating all matters of agricultural research, technology dissemination and agricultural development in the SADC region.

The CCARDESA mandate is aligned to the objectives of the CAADP Pillar4, Malabo Declaration Commitment and the SADC Regional Agricultural Policy. CCARDESA closely works with regional and international partners to facilitate generation and use of essential agricultural technologies. It also supports the exchange of information and technology among Member states.

CCARDESA has established strategic alliances with regional and international Research and Development organisations, with whom it has a number of ongoing joint programmes. Within the region it has strong ties to the National Agricultural Research and Extension Systems (NARES) within each SADC Member State. The operational model of CCARDESA is based on building strong partnerships while focusing on addressing the needs of farmers with regard to production, productivity and marketing of farm products.

Stellenbosch University (SU) is home to an academic community of 30 150 students (including 4117 international students representing 122 nationalities). The University is amongst South Africa's leading tertiary institutions based on research output, student pass rates and rated scientists, and is recognised internationally as an academic institution of excellence. It boasts the highest weighted research output per full-time academic staff member of all South African universities and the second-highest number of scientists in South Africa who have been rated by the National Research Foundation (NRF).

It also has the highest student success rate in the country. According to the Times Higher Education World University Rankings (2015), SU is one of the top 300 universities in the world and among the top 20 in BRICS countries. In 2015 the Faculty of AgriSciences and its department of Forestry were ranked first in South Africa and Africa according to the QS World University Rankings by Subject for 2015. It also features among the world's elite institutions in 10 of the 36 subjects featured in the QS World University Rankings by Subject for 2015 <http://www.sun.ac.za/english/Lists/news/DispForm.aspx?ID=2555>.

University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) is one of the top five leading universities in South Africa and ranks in the top 3% of universities internationally. The university is spread over five campuses and is based on a College model, with four Colleges and 19 Schools in total. UKZN prides itself on being research-led. Its academic standards and highly productive research output has earned it the top spot in terms of total research publications output for the past three years in a row among 25 public funded universities in South Africa. UKZN accounts for 13.2% of South Africa's research output and according to the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) of South Africa, the research output per UKZN staff member is 105% of the national norm.

The University's teaching and research programmes have attracted scholars and highly respected academics from both within South Africa and abroad. UKZN has academic exchange programmes with some 46 countries internationally. UKZN student enrolments stand at 45,000 making it one of the largest and most vibrant contact universities in South Africa (<http://www.ukzn.ac.za>).

The University of Venda (UNIVEN) is a comprehensive, rural-based higher education institution which has entrenched an institutional culture of excellence and quality, characterised by peace and stability on campus.

Its university community comprises approximately 15000 students and more than 450 academic staff members. UNIVEN's research output continues to grow exponentially. The audited output of research publications increased in 2014 by 52.93 publication units - from 148.77 units in 2013 to 227.51 in 2014. Univen plays an active and leading role in the field of Community Engagement.

The Vuwani Science Resource Centre brings science, mathematics and technology closer to rural communities. UNIVEN is proud of the community-based research of the Institute for Rural Development. International partnership in community engagement is a specific strength of the University. UNIVEN has heavily invested in state-of-the-Art infrastructure and research instrumentation. In the last decade, the University has transformed into a locally relevant, but globally competitive institution of higher learning in which all members of the community, irrespective of race, gender or nationality feel welcome and motivated to contribute to its success. It has assumed its rightful place amongst its South African and international peers.

The University of Pretoria is a values-based, research-intensive university that equips its students to succeed in a rapidly changing world by providing them with inquiry-led training and learning opportunities. The University's long-term vision is to sustain its quality and relevance as a university that is firmly rooted in Africa, and to harness its existing and future potential for diversity. UP strives to ensure that it is recognised in the global marketplace of knowledge production.

UP has nine faculties and a business school based on six campuses in Tshwane and one in Johannesburg. The faculties are Economic and Management Sciences; Education, Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology, Health Sciences, Humanities, Law, Natural and Agricultural Sciences, Theology, Veterinary Science (the only faculty of its kind in South Africa) and the Gordon Institute of Business Science (GIBS).

The University prides itself on producing well-rounded, creative graduates, responsible, productive citizens and future leaders. Great emphasis is placed on student life and support as well as the advancement of sport, art, culture and music. The University of Pretoria came into existence in 1908 as the Transvaal University College (TUC) and became a fully-fledged university in 1930. The colloquial name Tuks, or Tukkie, was derived from the acronym TUC. In the 108 years of its existence the University has produced 250 000 alumni.

The cultural diversity of the South African population is reflected in the total student population of the University of Pretoria of almost 60 000 students in 2015. There are 49 100 contact students of whom 57% are female and 61% are black students. South Africa's landmark social-political changes since 1994 have meant that the University has grown significantly, mainly to accommodate students who prefer English as medium of instruction.

The University of Fort Hare (UFH), founded in 1916, is a multi-campus University situated in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa, and is one of the leading institutions in agricultural sciences in South Africa. The main campus located in the small rural town of Alice and satellite campuses in Bhisho and East London are home to 15000 enrolled students.

Well known for its historical background of producing prominent leaders, such as Oliver Tambo, Nelson Mandela, Govan Mbeki, Robert Sobukwe and Robert Mugabe, who have shaped South African and African history, UFH continues to be a vibrant, equitable and sustainable African university committed to teaching and research excellence. The UFH was ranked 7th among South African universities for weighted research per capita output (DHET, 2014) and the total research output has been on the increase over the past few years.

The UFH's mission is to provide high quality education of international standards; contributing to the advancement of knowledge that is socially and ethically relevant and that applies to the technological and socio-economic development of the nation and the wider world. Among its strategic national research projects are two South African Research Chairs Initiatives (SARChI)-These are the SARChI Chair in Social Change and the SARChI Chair in Meat Science (Co-hosted with Stellenbosch University). Please visit www.ufh.ac.za for more detail.

The University of the Free State

The University of the Free State (UFS) is one of the oldest institutions of higher education in South Africa. It opened its doors in 1904 on the Bloemfontein Campus with a mere six students in the Humanities. Since then, our institution has grown to more than 34 127 students, spread across seven faculties over three campuses. In addition to the founding campus, the university has a South Campus in Bloemfontein.

This smaller campus provides alternative access to higher education for promising students who have not obtained the required marks in their final school examinations. Our vibrant Qwaqwa Campus in the Eastern Free State serves a rapidly-growing number of rural students from the immediate area and surrounding provinces. Inspiring excellence. Transforming lives. These objectives are the driving forces at the heart of the UFS. Through our Human and Academic Projects, we are a university internationally recognised for human reconciliation and compassion as well as for excellence in academic achievement.

Please visit <http://www.ufs.ac.za/> for more details

The 5th African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference, 17th -21st October, 2016, Century City Conference Center, Cape Town, South Africa

Summary of Events

Pre-conference Events

While the official Conference will be held from Tuesday 18 to Friday 21 October, Pre-conference events will be organized for RUFORUM organs and other side meetings. Reeta Roy, President of the MasterCard Foundation will deliver a key note address on Sunday 16 October at an evening function hosted by the National Research Foundation of South Africa, together with RUFORUM. The RUFORUM Board of Trustees, the Committee of Principals and Deans; the Technical Committee, the International Advisory Panel and the RUFORUM Annual General Meeting will hold their statutory meetings.

A Vice Chancellors Forum on leadership and management and two trainings for University Principals and Deans on curriculum development (organized with Harvard University in the United States) and on Gender in collaboration with African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD) will be organized to enhance capacities of the network to perform efficiently. Stellenbosch University will play a lead role in organizing an Executive Discussion Forum that will engage Business Leaders from South Africa in line with the Conference themes. The Global Confederation of Higher Education Associations will hold its annual meeting on Monday 17th October, 2016.

Other pre-conference events will involve graduate students: the Social Media Training for Graduate Students; The Stellenbosch University –RUFORUM Graduate Event; Graduate Students Skills Enhancement Meeting; and project specific student meetings (USAID Feed the Future iAGRI Project, Carnegie Foundation of New York Project and the EU-ACP funded ADECEA project). RUFORUM Graduates and beneficiaries will consider how to support current and future students and launch the RUFORUM Alumni Association.

Day 1 (18 October) Morning: RUFORUM Business meeting

The RUFORUM Annual General Meeting (AGM) is the highest governing organ of RUFORUM. The AGM will be held on the morning of 18th October, 2016, organized in conjunction with the Agricultural Research Council and the University of Venda. The key note address at the AGM will be delivered by the South African Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Hon. General Bheki Cele. The AGM will receive the network report for the just concluded year and confirm work plan for 2016/17. Presentations on key contemporary issues for the RUFORUM network will be presented by partners: the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA) (to be presented by NEPAD Coordinating Agency) and the Africa Higher Education Capacity Indicators (by IFPRI/ASTI). The AGM will admit new member universities.

Day 1 (18 October) Afternoon: Official Conference Opening

The Conference will open with a broad focus on identifying key challenges toward ensuring inclusive growth in Africa and more specifically expert perspective on the role of African universities. The Opening Ceremony will be officiated by Her Excellency Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, Chairperson of the Africa Union Commission with a statement from the Hon. Senzeni Zokwana, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of South Africa. Solidarity statements will be received from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Common Market for Eastern and Central Africa (COMESA).

The Official opening will set the stage for the Conference and highlighting how the Conference aims to achieve its overall objectives of a) Identifying appropriate models and approaches to strengthen engagement between the private sector, policy and Higher Education Institutions; b) Linking graduate research and training to potential employers for a better understanding of the context they will work in; c) Strengthening the use of science, technology and innovation for agricultural led economic growth and development in Africa; and d) Developing strategies for increasing government and National Agricultural Research Institutes (NARIs) support to Higher Agricultural Education (HAE) in Africa.

Day 2 (19 October) Linking Universities with the Private Sector for Agribusiness Innovations

Following an overview of the Conference Program by RUFORUM Secretariat, a key note presentation will be delivered on 'New Directions in Development and Assistance Partnerships' by Dr. Jon Lomoy, Director General of NORAD. The discussions will highlight the global trends and implications for development partner funding for higher education and research in Africa and the role of African governments and other stakeholders, particularly the private sector in driving research agenda in Africa.

Subsequently, a discussion will ensue to improve awareness on the role of the private sector with regards to Knowledge Generation and use for Development. A second panel will discuss Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Africa to profile examples of winning innovations that highlight the need for increasing strategies to respond to the overwhelming demand for higher education in Africa and converse reduction in employment opportunities within the public sector in Africa. The Panel will involve 10 young entrepreneur' finalists who will present their innovations to the Plenary. A young and upcoming South Africa farmer will provide concluding remarks for the Session.

Parallel sessions and side events will be held in the afternoon. A Side event to discuss Universities-CGIAR, REC, SRO, and NARI Partnerships; and other thematic sessions will be held. RUFORUM together with the World Bank and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will convene a meeting of selected development partners to discuss higher education. RUFORUM together with the World Bank and the Eurasian Center for Food Security will host a side event of leading soil scientists in Africa working towards enhancing collaborations in the area of soil sciences.

Building on the thrust of the conference on linking universities to the private sector and government, there will be a plenary session on Building Science, Technology and Innovation Capacity for Africa with an official address by Her Excellency Mrs. Ameenah Gurib-Fakim, President of the Republic of Mauritius and Guest of Honor. Evening sessions will be held including a RUFORUM alumni association meeting to engage alumni to support RUFORUM academic and networking agenda.

Day 3 (20 October) Strengthening University Engagement for Community Transformation

Strengthening the contribution of universities to community advancement was clearly highlighted by RUFORUM Board members and stakeholders within the recently approved Strategic Business Plan for RUFORUM 2015-2020. Tools such as ICT have been highlighted for their potential role in enhancing effectiveness of technology use and effectiveness at scale.

A keynote presentation on 'Digital Agriculture and reaching smallholder farmers; will be delivered by Dr. David Bergvinson, Director General, International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT). The presentation will provide background for further discussion and a Panel on linking universities to communities. A diverse panel will highlight experiences on university outreach from various perspectives including the EARTH experience, farmer NGO and alumni perspectives, and illustration from the Songhai Center in Benin.

Parallel sessions will follow for the rest of the day that will include META learning on Higher Education, Strengthening University-Community engagement and innovation platforms and strengthening gender mainstreaming to enhance agricultural productivity. RUFORUM together with the World Bank and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will convene a meeting of selected development partners to discuss higher education. Evening sessions will be held including a RUFORUM alumni association meeting to engage alumni to support RUFORUM academic and networking agenda.

Day 4 (21 October) Building a Quality Higher Education System in Africa: Game Changers

The last day will tie together strands from previous days' discussions on private sector engagement, youth innovation, university community engagement for impact to guide strategies for enhancing the quality of higher education in Africa and how to effectively engage policy in proposed actions. The reflections will be followed by response from the current Director of the African Academy of Sciences (AAS) Dr. Berhanu Abegaz.

The Panel Discussion will bring together key policy makers (African Ministers) and experts from across the Continent to discuss 'Higher Education Game Changers' in Africa and what reforms are needed. There after there will be a number of parallel sessions and a Roundtable discussion involving Ministers of Education, Science and Technology from eight African countries. The Closing Session will share key outcomes of the Conference in the form of a Conference Communique with a closing Address by His Excellency Dr. Martial De-Paul Ikounga, Commissioner for Human Resource, Science and Technology of the African Union Commission.

The Conference will also recognize exemplary individuals during the Closing Ceremony. Key policy makers will make statements prior to the Conference Closing Address. The Conference Gala Dinner will take place in the evening of Day 4.

The 5th African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Theme: Linking Agricultural Universities with Civil Society, the Private Sector, Governments and other Stakeholders in support of Agricultural Development in Africa
Venue: Century City Conference Centre, Cape Town, South Africa
Dates: 15th - 21th October 2016

THE PROGRAMME

DAY	SCHEDULE OF SESSIONS AND EVENTS							
	MORNING SESSIONS AND SIDE EVENTS 0830 - 1030	BREAK 1030 - 1100	MID-MORNING SESSIONS AND SIDE EVENTS 1100 - 1300	LUNCH 1300 - 1400	AFTERNOON SESSIONS AND SIDE EVENTS 1400 - 1630	BREAK 1645 - 1730	EVENING SESSIONS AND EVENTS 1700 - 2100	
SATURDAY 15 October, 2016	Vice Chancellors Forum on Leadership and Management (Meeting Room 11, CCCC)	1030 - 1100	Vice Chancellors Forum on Leadership and Management (Meeting Room 11, CCCC)	1300 - 1400	Vice Chancellors Forum on Leadership and Management (Meeting Room 11, CCCC)	1645 - 1730	OPEN SPACE	
	Social Media Training for Graduate Students (Crystal Towers)		Social Media Training for Graduate Students (Crystal Towers)		Social Media Training for Graduate Students (Crystal Towers)			
	Harvard Training on Curriculum Development for RUFORUM Principals and Deans (Meeting Room 8 & 9, CCCC)		Harvard Training on Curriculum Development for RUFORUM Principals and Deans (Meeting Room 8 & 9, CCCC)		Harvard Training on Curriculum Development for RUFORUM Principals and Deans (Meeting Room 8 & 9, CCCC)			
	PAEPARD: Processes and Practices for Multi-stakeholder Partnership in ARD (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)		PAEPARD: Processes and Practices for Multi-stakeholder Partnership in ARD (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)		PAEPARD: Processes and Practices for Multi-stakeholder Partnership in ARD (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)			
SUNDAY 16 October, 2016	Vice Chancellors Forum on Leadership and Management (Field Trip)	1030 - 1100	Vice Chancellors Forum on Leadership and Management (Field Trip)	1300 - 1400	Vice Chancellors Forum on Leadership and Management (Field Trip)	1645 - 1730	OPEN SPACE	
	Social Media Training for Graduate Students (Hall C, CCCC)		Social Media Training for Graduate Students (Hall C, CCCC)		Social Media Training for Graduate Students (Hall C, CCCC)		Evening Function: (Hall A,B&C, CCCC):	
	RUFORUM International Advisory Panel Meeting (Meeting Room 6, CCCC)		RUFORUM International Advisory Panel Meeting (Meeting Room 6, CCCC)		South Africa Agriculture and Life Sciences (SAALSDA) Deans Meeting (Meeting Room 11, CCCC)		Guest Address by Reeta Roy, President, MasterCard Foundation	
	AWARD Training on Gender for RUFORUM Principals and Deans (Meeting Room 8 & 9, CCCC)		AWARD Training on Gender for RUFORUM Principals and Deans (Meeting Room 8 & 9, CCCC)		PAEPARD: Processes and Practices for Multi-stakeholder Partnership in ARD (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)		Statement by Dr. Molapo Chobela, Chief Executive Officer, National Research Foundation	
	RUFORUM Technical Committee Meeting (Meeting Room 7, CCCC)		RUFORUM Technical Committee Meeting (Meeting Room 7, CCCC)		PAEPARD: Processes and Practices for Multi-stakeholder Partnership in ARD (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)		Cocktail hosted by NRF	
	PAEPARD: Processes and Practices for Multi-stakeholder Partnership in ARD (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)		PAEPARD: Processes and Practices for Multi-stakeholder Partnership in ARD (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)		ADECEA Post Conflict Team (Stay Easy Meeting Room)			

DAY	SCHEDULE OF SESSIONS AND EVENTS							
	MORNING SESSIONS AND SIDE EVENTS 0830 - 1030	BREAK 1030 - 1100	MID-MORNING SESSIONS AND SIDE EVENTS 1100 - 1300	LUNCH 1300 - 1400	AFTERNOON SESSIONS AND SIDE EVENTS 1400 - 1630	BREAK 1645 - 1730	EVENING SESSIONS AND EVENTS 1700 - 2100	
MONDAY 17 October, 2016	<p>RUFORUM Board Meeting (Stellenbosch University, STIAS)</p> <p>RUFORUM Principals and Deans Meeting (Stellenbosch University, Faculty of Theology)</p> <p>SU-Graduate Event (Stellenbosch University)</p> <p>RUFORUM Technical Committee Meeting (Stellenbosch University, STIAS)</p> <p>Presentation: Grow Further Club: A new concept in agricultural R&D financing by Peter Kelly</p> <p>PAEPARD: Processes and Practices for Multi-stakeholder Partnership in ARD (Meeting Room 8, CCCC)</p> <p>RUFORUM Principal Investigators Meeting (Meeting Room 9, CCCC)</p> <p>4th GCHERA World Dialogue 2016: Global Leadership and Transformative Changes to Meet the Challenges of the 21st C (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)</p> <p>Postharvest Management: Innovation for sustainable systems within value chains that improve smallholder incomes Hall C, CCCC Convener: FANRPAN</p>	<p>1030 - 1100</p>	<p>RUFORUM Board Meeting (Stellenbosch University, STIAS)</p> <p>RUFORUM Principals and Deans Meeting (Stellenbosch University, Faculty of Theology)</p> <p>SU-Graduate Event (Stellenbosch University)</p> <p>RUFORUM Technical Committee Meeting (Stellenbosch University, STIAS)</p> <p>PAEPARD: Processes and Practices for Multi-stakeholder Partnership in ARD (Meeting Room 8, CCCC)</p> <p>RUFORUM Principal Investigators Meeting (Meeting Room 9, CCCC)</p> <p>4th GCHERA World Dialogue 2016: Global Leadership and Transformative Changes to Meet the Challenges of the 21st C (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)</p> <p>Postharvest Management: Innovation for sustainable systems within value chains that improve smallholder incomes Hall C, CCCC Convener: FANRPAN</p> <p>ADECEA Post Conflict Team (Stay Easy Meeting Room)</p>	<p>1300 - 1400</p>	<p>RUFORUM Board Meeting (Stellenbosch University, STIAS)</p> <p>RUFORUM Principals and Deans Meeting (Stellenbosch University, Faculty of Theology)</p> <p>SU-Graduate Event (Stellenbosch University)</p> <p>PAEPARD: Processes and Practices for Multi-stakeholder Partnership in ARD (Meeting Room 8, CCCC)</p> <p>RUFORUM Principal Investigators Meeting (Meeting Room 9, CCCC)</p> <p>4th GCHERA World Dialogue 2016: Global Leadership and Transformative Changes to Meet the Challenges of the 21st C (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)</p> <p>Postharvest Management: Innovation for sustainable systems within value chains that improve smallholder incomes Hall C, CCCC Convener: FANRPAN</p> <p>PAEPARD: Processes and Practices for Multi-stakeholder Partnership in ARD (Meeting Room 8, CCCC)</p> <p>RUFORUM Principal Investigators Meeting (Meeting Room 9, CCCC)</p> <p>4th GCHERA World Dialogue 2016: Global Leadership and Transformative Changes to Meet the Challenges of the 21st C (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)</p> <p>Postharvest Management: Innovation for sustainable systems within value chains that improve smallholder incomes Hall C, CCCC Convener: FANRPAN</p> <p>Planning Meeting for a Book on Higher Education (Meeting Room 2, CCCC). Conveners: RUFORUM and World Bank</p> <p>Starting: 1630-1930 Carnegie Students Meeting (Hall A, CCCC)</p> <p>iAGRI Students Meeting (Meeting Room 7, CCCC)</p>	<p>1645 - 1730</p>	<p>1700 - 2100</p>	<p>TagDev Joint Implementers Meeting (Meeting Room, CCCC)</p>

TUESDAY 18 October, 2016	RUFORUM Annual General Meeting (Crystal Towers)	1030 - 1100	RUFORUM Annual General Meeting (Crystal Towers)	1300 - 1400	Official Opening Ceremony of the Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference (Hall A,B, & C, CCCC)	1645 - 1730	WELCOME FUNCTION Century City Square
	Graduate Students Skills Enhancement Meeting (Hall A, CCCC) - Guest Address by Dr. Bharati Patel, Former Director General of Zambia Agricultural Research Institute and Coordinator of FORUM PAEPARD: Engaging Universities in Farmer led Research (Meeting Room 10, CCCC) Michigan State University: Innovating Partnerships: Applying frameworks and models in the real world (Meeting Room 8-9, CCCC)		Graduate Students Skills Enhancement Meeting (Hall A, CCCC) PAEPARD: Engaging Universities in Farmer led Research (Meeting Room 10, CCCC) Michigan State University: Innovating Partnerships: Applying frameworks and models in the real world (Meeting Room 8-9, CCCC)		World Agriculture Prize Awards (Hall A,B, & C, CCCC)		

Tuesday 18 October, 2016

SESSION 1: RUFORUM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Venue: Crystal Towers

Session Chair: Prof. Mabel Imbuga, Vice Chancellor, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology and RUFORUM Board Chair

Session Rapporteurs: Mr. Charles Owuor and Mr. Emmanuel Okalany, RUFORUM Secretariat

0830 - 0900

Part I: Constitution of the RUFORUM Annual General Meeting (AGM)

1. Record of members present and apologies
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Communication from the Chair
4. Minutes and Actions from the 11th Annual General Meeting

0900 - 1000

Part II: Official Opening of the RUFORUM 12th Annual General Meeting

1. Welcome Remarks by Prof. Adipala Ekwamu, Executive Secretary, RUFORUM
2. Remarks by Prof. Peter Mbatia, Vice Chancellor, University of Venda
3. Statement by Dr. Michael Hauser, President of AGRINATURA
4. Statement by Dr. Yemi Akinbamiyo, Executive Director, Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa
5. Statement by Dr. Shadrack Moephuli, CEO & President of Agriculture Research Council, South Africa
6. Official Opening Address by Hon. General Bheki Cele, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, South Africa
7. Vote of Thanks by Prof. Mary Jossy Nakhanda Okwakol, Vice Chancellor, Busitema University

1000 - 1010

GROUP PHOTOGRAPH

1010 - 1030

HEALTH BREAK

1035 - 1330	PART III: RUFORUM Annual General Meeting (AGM) Business
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentation of Annual Report by the RUFORUM Secretariat 2. Presentation of the 2015/2016 Financial Report and 2016/2017 Budget Proposal 3. Discussion on the Financial Report and Budget Proposal 4. Report of the External Auditor (Deloitte) 5. Discussion on External Audit 6. Appointment of 2016/2017 External Auditor 7. Venue for the next AGM and 2018 Biennial 8. Presentations by Partners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation on STISA by Chimwemwe Chamdimba, AU/NEPAD Agency • Presentation on Africa Higher Education Capacity Indicators by Nienke Beintema, IFPRI/ASTI • Statements by Partners 9. Business from the Board: Formal Admission of New Member Universities 10. Closing Remarks by the RUFORUM Board Chair
1330 - 1430	LUNCH
SESSION 2: OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY OF THE FIFTH AFRICAN HIGHER EDUCATION WEEK AND RUFORUM BIENNIAL CONFERENCE 2016	
Session Chair: Prof. Mabel Imbuga, Vice Chancellor, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology and RUFORUM Board Chair	
Session Rapporteurs: Dr. Paul Nampala (RUFORUM Secretariat) and Dr. Agnes Mwangwela (Dean, LUANAR and Vice Chair RUFORUM Principal/Deans Committee)	
1500 - 1545	Arrival of Guests /Refreshments
Conference Welcome Remarks	
1545 - 1555	Prof. Wim de Villiers, Vice Chancellor Stellenbosch University
1555 - 1600	Prof. Adipala Ekwamu, Executive Secretary RUFORUM
Conference Keynote Address	
1600 - 1620	Keynote Address: Prof Johan van Zyl, Extraordinary Professor, AgriScience, Stellenbosch University
1620 - 1630	Plenary Discussion
GCHERA World Agricultural Prize	
1630 - 1720	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of the Laureate and his achievements by Prof. John Kennelly, President Global Confederation of Higher Education Associations for Agricultural and Life Sciences (GCHERA) • Presentation of the World Agriculture Prize Award (WAP) by Prof. John Kennelly and Prof. Wang Chunchun, Vice President of Nanjing Agricultural University • Speech by GCHERA WAP Laureate • Thanks and congratulations by Prof. Wang Chunchun, Vice President of Nanjing Agricultural University
Conference Opening Remarks and Addresses	
1720 - 1730	Remarks by Dr. Mercy Karanja, Programme Officer Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
1730 - 1750	Statement by the Hon. Senzeni Zokwana, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, South Africa
1750 - 1820	Official Address by Her Excellency Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, Chairperson, Africa Union Commission
1820 - 1830	Vote of Thanks by Prof. George Kanyama-Phiri, RUFORUM Deputy Board Chair and Vice Chancellor Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources
1930 - 2130	EVENING FUNCTION Brief Remarks by Ms. Helen Zille, Premier of the Western Cape

Wednesday 19 October, 2016

SESSION 3: LINKING UNIVERSITIES WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR FOR AGRIBUSINESS INNOVATIONS

Session Moderator: Ms. Judith Francis, CTA and Member of RUFORUM International Advisory Panel

Session Rapporteurs: Mr. Henry Massa Makuma, RUFORUM Secretariat and Prof. Godwin Mchau, University of Venda

0830 - 0840	Overview of the Programme by Dr. Moses Osiru, Deputy Executive Secretary, RUFORUM
0840 - 0900	Keynote Address: New Directions in Development Assistance and Partnerships by Dr. Jon Lomoy, Director General, NORAD
0900 - 0915	Plenary Discussion
0915 - 1015	Panel: The Private Sector, Knowledge Generation and Development <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof. Margaret Kamar, Consultant with Global Leaders Consultancy and Former Cabinet Minister for Higher Education, Science and Technology, Kenya 2. Mr. Hugh Campbell, General Manager HORTGRO Science South Africa 3. Mr. Nimura Satoshi, Managing Director, Nimura Genetic Solutions Co. Ltd, Japan 4. Dr. Helen Gichohi, Chief Executive Officer, Equity Group Foundation 5. Mr. Jannie De Villiers, Chief Executive Officer of Grain South Africa
1015 - 1040	Plenary Discussion
1040 - 1110	HEALTH BREAK AND POSTERS/ EXHIBITIONS VIEWING (Meeting Room D and Foyer)

SESSION 4: YOUTH INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Session Moderator: Dr. Johan van Rooyen, Stellenbosch University and President International Food and Agribusiness Management Association

Session Rapporteurs: Dr. Anthony Egeru, RUFORUM Secretariat and Prof. Hussein Shimelis, University of KwaZulu-Natal

1115 - 1235	Showcasing Excellence in Youth Innovations in Africa: Panel of 10 Young Innovators
1235 - 1305	Questions to and responses from the Panel
1305 - 1315	Session Wrap-up: Dimakatso Sekhoto (Nono), Youth Farmer, Makolobane, South Africa
1315 - 1415	LUNCH BREAK

SESSION 5: PARALLEL SESSIONS AND SIDE EVENTS (1415 - 1630)

1415 - 1630	<p>Session 5.1: Collaboration in the Area of Soil Science (Manhattan Suites) Convener: World Bank, Eurasian Center for Food Security, and RUFORUM Secretariat</p> <p>Session 5.2: Universities-CGIAR, REC, SRO, and NARI Partnership (Hall A, CCCC) Chair: Prof. Bongani Ndimba, ARC and Rapporteur, Dr Lerato Mtsaunyane, ARC Opening: Dr. Shadrack Moephuli, CEO & President of Agriculture Research Council, South Africa</p> <p>Session 5.3: Partnership to Strengthen Higher Education (Meeting Room 2, CCCC) Convener: AGRINATURA and RUFORUM Secretariat Chair: Didier Pilot AGRINATURA and Rapporteur: Emmanuel Okalany, RUFORUM Secretariat</p> <p>Session 5.4: FoodAfrica - Turning Research into Opportunities for Agribusiness (Meeting Room 7, CCCC) Convener: Natural Resources Institute Finland Rapporteur: Henry Massa Makuma</p> <p>Session 5.5: Innovating sustainable partnership in nutrition (Meeting Room 9, CCCC) Convener: SANBio Rapporteur: Dr. Paul Nampala, RUFORUM Secretariat</p> <p>Session 5.6: Communication Tools Venue: Crystal Towers Convener: Platform for African European Partnerships in Agricultural Research for Development (PAEPARD)</p> <p>Session 5.7: Round Table Meeting of Ugandan Vice Chancellors and the Minister of State for Higher Education, Uganda Meeting Room 2, CCCC Rapporteur: Ms. Florence Nakayiwa, Makerere University</p>
-------------	---

SESSION 5: PARALLEL SESSIONS AND SIDE EVENTS (1415 - 1630)

1415 - 1630	<p>Session 5.8: Addressing Risk Associated with Climate Change and Variability in Agricultural Systems (Hall B, CCCC)</p> <p><i>Chair: Prof. Jemal Yusuf, Haramaya University and Rapporteur: Prof. Danie Vermeulen, University of Free State</i></p> <p>Opening: Mr. Juergen Voegele, Senior Director of Agriculture and Global Practices for the World Bank</p>	<p>Session 5.9: Sustainable Intensification within Smallholder Crop Value Chains (Hall C, CCCC)</p> <p><i>Chair: Prof. Achille Ephrem Assogbadjo, University of Abomey Calavi and Rapporteur Dr. Flora Chadare, University of Abomey Calavi</i></p> <p>Opening: Safflower Germplasm Evaluation for Botswana Conditions Emongor, E.V.</p>	<p>Session 5.10: Marine Science and Blue Economy – Fisheries and Aquaculture (Meeting Room 8, CCCC)</p> <p><i>Chair: Prof. Emmanuel Kaunda, LUANAR and Rapporteur: Prof. Sam-Amoah Livingstone, University of Cape Coast</i></p> <p>Opening: Sectorial appraisal of investor and consumer uptake potential for polychaete culture enterprises along the Kenyan coastline Kihia, C. M.</p>	<p>Session 5.11: Innovations in Higher Education: University Private Sector Collaboration (Hall 10, CCCC)</p> <p><i>Chair: Prof Danie Brink, Faculty of AgriSciences, Stellenbosch University and Rapporteur: Mr. Waswa Moses, RUFORUM Secretariat</i></p> <p>Opening: Private sector investments in capacity building, research and technology scale out along the agricultural value chain: Dr. Rufaro Madakadze, Program Officer, Education and Training, Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa</p>	<p>Session 5.12: Agricultural Marketing Pathways, Product Update, Trade and Policy (Meeting Room 11, CCCC)</p> <p><i>Chair: Prof. Jean Lubuma, University of Pretoria and Rapporteur: Dr. Madola Mathews, RUFORUM Secretariat</i></p> <p>Opening: Agricultural Marketing Pathways, Product update, Trade and Policy in Africa Mrs. Anne Mbaabu, Head Market Harvest and Management Gathoni, Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa</p>
1630 - 1700	HEALTH BREAK AND POSTERS/ EXHIBITIONS VIEWING (Hall D, Foyer & Business Lounge)				
SESSION 6: BUILDING SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION CAPACITY FOR AFRICA					
Session Chair: Prof. Mabel Imbuga, Vice Chancellor, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology and RUFORUM Board Chair					
Session Rapporteurs: Prof. Patrick Okori, ICRISAT and Dr. Moses Osiru, RUFORUM Secretariat					
1700 - 1710	Remarks by Prof. Adipala Ekwamu, Executive Secretary RUFORUM				
1710 - 1730	Remarks by Hon. Dr. Naledi Pandor, Minister of Science and Technology, South Africa				
1730 - 1800	Address by Her Excellency Mrs. Ameenah Gurib-Fakim, GCSK, CSK, PhD, President of the Republic of Mauritius				
1800 - 1830	SESSION 7: POSTERS AND EXHIBITIONS (Hall D, Foyer & Business Lounge)				
1900 - 2130	SESSION 8: EVENING SESSION AND SIDE EVENTS				
Session 8.1: RUFORUM Alumni Meeting (Meeting Room 11, CCCC)					
Session 8.2: Round Table Discussion on American Land Grant Universities (Venue: Meeting Room 10, CCCC) – By invitation only					

Thursday 20 October, 2016

SESSION 9: STRENGTHENING UNIVERSITY ENGAGEMENT FOR COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

Session Moderator: Prof. Frans Swanepoel, Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of Western Cape, South Africa
 Session Rapporteurs: Dr. Solange Uwituze, RUFORUM Secretariat and Prof. John Mugisha, Makerere University

0830 - 0840 Summary of Day 2 and Introduction to Profile of Events for Day 3: Dr. Paul Nampala, Grants Manager, RUFORUM Secretariat

0840 - 0900 **Keynote Address:** Digital Agriculture and reaching smallholder farmers. Dr. David Berginsson, Director General, International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)

0900 - 0920 Plenary Discussion

0920 - 1020 **Panel: Linking Universities to Communities**

1. Prof. Daniel Sherrard, Pro Vice Chancellor, EARTH University, Costa Rica
2. Prof. Nancy Mungai, Egerton University Kenya
3. Ms. Catherine Mloza-Banda, RUFORUM Alumni, Malawi
4. Mrs. Norah Asio Ebukalin, Farmer from Popular Women's Knowledge Initiative (P'KWII), Uganda
5. Dr. Peter Materu, Director, Education and Learning, MasterCard Foundation

1020 - 1040 Plenary Discussion

1040 - 1110 **HEALTH BREAK and POSTERS/ EXHIBITIONS VIEWING (Meeting Room D and Foyer, CCCC)**

SESSION 10: PARALLEL SESSIONS AND SIDE EVENTS (1115-1300)

1115-1300

Session 10.1: Joint META Learning on Higher Education (Hall A, CCCC)

Opening Remarks by Dr. Aldo Stroebel, NRF South Africa
 Keynote Presentation by Prof. Silas Lwakabamba, Vice Chancellor, University of Kibungo
 Rapporteur: Dr. Moses Osiru, RUFORUM Secretariat

Session 10.2: Positive Youth Development and Experiential Learning in University Outreach (Meeting Room 9, CCCC)

Convener: INNOVATE
 Rapporteur: Mr. Opolot Deogracious, Makerere University

Session 10.3: Integrating Video-Mediated Rural Learning in University Curricula (Crystal Towers)

Convener: RUFORUM Secretariat and Access Agriculture
 Rapporteur: Jackie Nham, RUFORUM Secretariat

Session 10.4: Preplanning Meeting for the Ministerial Roundtable Discussions: (By invitation only, Venue: Manhattan Suites)

Convener: RUFORUM Secretariat
 Rapporteur: Dr. Madola Mathews, RUFORUM Secretariat

Session 10.5: The Sustainable Intensification Within Smallholder Crop and Livestock Value Chains (Hall B, CCCC)

Chair: Dr. Mick Sikaenyi Mwala, University of Zambia and Rapporteur: Dr. Vinya Royd, Copperbelt University

Session 10.6: Strengthening Community Engagement and Innovation Platforms (Hall C, CCCC)

Hosted by University of Venda (UNIVEN):
 Chair: Prof. Peter Mbat, Vice Chancellor, University of Venda and Rapporteur: Dr. Nampala Paul, RUFORUM Secretariat

Session 10.7: Partnerships and Innovations to Strengthen Higher Education in Africa (Meeting Room 11, CCCC)

Chair: Dr. Bobe Beadadi, Haramaya University and Rapporteur: Dr. Solange Uwituze, RUFORUM Secretariat

Session 10.8: Reducing Postharvest Losses (Meeting Room 7, CCCC)

Chair and Rapporteur, Prof Linus Opara, Stellenbosch University and Rapporteur: Prof. Fawole Olaniya, SACPT, Stellenbosch University

Session 10.9: Strengthening Gender Mainstreaming to Enhance Agricultural Productivity (Meeting Room 8, CCCC)

Chair: Ms. Pauline Bomett, AWARD and Rapporteur: Mr. Charles Owour, RUFORUM Secretariat

Session 10.10: Sustainable Environment and Natural Resources Management (Room 10, CCCC)

Chair: Prof. Romain Kakai, University of Abomey Calavi and Rapporteur: Dr. Egeru Anthony, RUFORUM Secretariat

Session 10.11: Sustainable Intensification Within Smallholder Livestock Value Chains (Meeting Room 5, CCCC)

Chair: Prof. Aghdasi Farhad, University of Fort Hare and Rapporteur: Dr. Willis Owino, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology

1300 - 1400	Opening: Pathways to secure smallholder farmer seed security Okori, P.	Opening: Positioning Universities to undertake outreach for impact on community University of Venda	Opening: Dr. Beatrice Muganda Director, Higher Education, PASGR	Novel non-destructive techniques to characterize fruit non internal components to detect presence of defects and disorders Arendse, E.	Opening: A Mathematical Aso-Oke: Ndebele dolls, vertex-edge graphs, cryptology and number patterns in the lives of African women in agricultural research and development (AWARD) Nkechi, M. A.	Pyrolysis of blended and non-blended residues of pine and eucalyptus forestry woods Kizza, R.	Opening: Harnessing higher education institutions' capabilities in controlling trans-boundary animal diseases at the livestock-wildlife interface: the case for African swine fever in Uganda Masembe, C.
LUNCH BREAK							
SESSION 11: PARALLEL SESSIONS AND SIDE EVENTS (1400-1730)							
1400 - 1730	Session 11.1: Joint META Learning on Higher Education (Hall A, CCCC) Rapporteur: Dr. Moses Osiru, RUFORUM Secretariat						
1400 - 1730	Session 11.2: Positive Youth Development and Experiential Learning in University Outreach (Meeting Room 9, CCCC) Convener: INNOVATE Rapporteur: Mr. Deogracious Opolot, Makerere University						
1400 - 1730	Session 11.3: Integrating Video-Mediated Rural Learning in University Curricula (Crystal Towers) Convener: RUFORUM Secretariat and Access Agriculture Rapporteur: Ms. Jacqueline Nham, RUFORUM Secretariat						
1400 - 1730	Session 11.4: Development Partners Round Table Meeting (By invitation only) Venue: Manhattan Suites and Conferencing Moderator: Dr. Leif Christoffersen, RUFORUM IAP Member Rapporteur: Dr. Moses Osiru, RUFORUM Secretariat and Prof. Kay Muir-Leresche, Chair RUFORUM Technical Committee						
1400 - 1730	Session 11.5: AGRINATURA-RUFORUM Erasmus Working Session (Meeting Room 6, CCCC)						
1400 - 1730	Session 11.6: Communication Tools Venue: Crystal Towers Convener: PAEPARD						
1400 - 1730	Session 11.7: Round Table Meeting of Kenyan Vice Chancellors and Cabinet Secretary for Education, Kenya Meeting Room 3, CCCC						
1400 - 1730	Session 11.8: Round Table Meeting of Sudanese Vice Chancellors and Minister for Higher Education and Scientific Research, Sudan Meeting Room 5, CCCC						
1400 - 1730	Session 11.9: The Sustainable intensification within smallholder crop value chains (Hall B, CCCC) Chair: Prof. Julius Ochoundo, University of Eldoret and Rapporteur: Prof. Elizabeth Omami, University of Eldoret	Session 11.10: Strengthening community engagement and innovation platforms (Hall C, CCCC) Chair: Prof. Nyeko Pen-Mogi, Vice Chancellor, Gulu University and Rapporteur: Prof. Godwin Mchau, University of Venda	Session 11.11: Partnerships and Innovations to Strengthen Higher Education in Africa (Meeting Room 11, CCCC) Session Chair, Prof. Agnes Mvugombe, University of Nairobi and Mr. John Kalungi, RUFORUM Secretariat	Session 11.12: Reducing postharvest losses (Meeting Room 7, CCCC) Chair: Prof. John Muyonga, Makerere University and Rapporteur: Dr. Ahamada Zziwa, Makerere University	Session 11.13: Agricultural Marketing Pathways, Product Update, Trade and Policy (Meeting Room 8, CCCC) Chair: Dr. Laetitia Nyinawamwiza, University of Rwanda and Rapporteur: Dr. Charles Bucagu, University of Rwanda	Session 11.14: The Sustainable intensification within smallholder Livestock value chains (Meeting Room 10, CCCC) Chair: Prof. Ebere Erondu, University of Port Harcourt and Rapporteur: Ms. Sally Chikutta, Makerere University	Session 11.15: Crop Improvement (Room 5, CCCC) Chair Prof. Patrick Rubaihayo Patrick, Makerere University and Rapporteur Mr. Jordan Adaku, Makerere University
1730 - 1830	HEALTH BREAK						
SESSION 12: POSTERS AND EXHIBITIONS (Hall D, Foyer & Business Lounge)							
FREE SPACE							

Friday 21st October, 2016

SESSION 13: BUILDING A QUALITY HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM IN AFRICA: GAME CHANGERS
 Session Moderator: Dr. Lindwe Sibanda, Executive Director FANRPAN and Member of RUFORUM International Advisory Panel
 Session Rapporteurs: Prof. Levi Akundabweni, University of Namibia and Dr. Mathews Madola, RUFORUM Secretariat

0830 - 0840 Summary of Day 3 and Introduction and Profile of Events for Day 4: Dr. Solange Uwituze, RUFORUM Secretariat

0840 - 0900 Liberalization and Expansion in Higher Education: Key Challenges and Implications for the Future by Prof. Slias Lwakabamba, Vice Chancellor, University of Kibungo

0900 - 0910 Respondent: Dr. Berhanu Abegaz, Executive Director, African Academy of Sciences

0910 - 1020 Panel Discussion on Higher Education Game Changers

1. Hon. Dr. John Chrysostom Muyingo, State Minister for Higher Education, Uganda
2. Hon. Prof. Sumata Mohamed Ahmed Abukashaw, Minister for Higher Education and Scientific Research, Sudan
3. Dr. Patrick Caron, Director General Agricultural Research for Development (CIRAD), France
4. Prof. Amadou Tidiane Guiro, Recteur Université Sine Saloum El hadj Ibrahima NIASS (USSEIN), Senegal
5. Hon. Emmanuel Fabiano, Minister of Education, Science and Technology, Malawi

1020 - 1040 Plenary Discussion

1040 - 1110 HEALTH BREAK

SESSION 14: PARALLEL SESSIONS AND SIDE EVENTS (1115 - 1300)

1115 - 1300 **Session 14.1: Ministerial Round Table Policy Dialogue-By invitation) (Crystal Towers)**
 Moderators: Dr. Lindwe Majele Sibanda (FANRPAN)
 Rapporteur: Dr. Moses Ostru, RUFORUM Secretariat

1115 - 1300 **Session 14.2: Strengthening Doctoral Training through DAAD in RUFORUM Universities (Meeting Room 2, CCCC)**
 Convener: RUFORUM Secretariat and DAAD
 Rapporteur: Dr. Solange Uwituze, RUFORUM Secretariat

1115 - 1300 **Session 14.3: Integrating video-mediated rural learning in university curricula (Meeting Room 11, CCCC)**
 Convener: RUFORUM Secretariat and Access Agriculture
 Rapporteur: Jackie Nham, RUFORUM Secretariat

1115 - 1300 **Session 14.4: Sustainable Intensification Within Smallholder Crop Value Chains (Hall A, CCCC)**
 Chair Prof. Hany A. El-Shemy, Cairo University and Rapporteur: Mr. Afutu Emmanuel, Makerere University

Session 14.5: Focusing on Agricultural Value chains for Effective Community Action Research (Meeting Room 7, CCCC)
 Chair: Prof. Kay Muir-Leresche, Chair RUFORUM Technical Committee and Rapporteur: Dr. Bernard Obaa, Makerere University

Session 14.6: ICTs in Agriculture (Meeting Room 8, CCCC)
 Chair: Prof. Pinkie Zwane, University of Swaziland and Rapporteur: Dr. Nandla Fanou, University of Abomey Calavi

Session 14.7: Session 14.7: e-Learning and Distance Education (Hall B, CCCC)
 Chair: Prof. Didier Pilot, AGRINATURA and Rapporteur: Dr. Valeta Joshua, LUANAR

Session 14.8: Agriculture Extension and Knowledge Management For Improved Production (Meeting Room 9, CCCC)
 Chair: Mr. Philip Kiliro, East Africa Farmers Federation and Dr. Lucy Kananu, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology

Session 14.9: Sustainable Intensification Within Smallholder Crop Value Chains (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)
 Chair: Prof. Albert Modiat, University of KwaZulu Natal and Prof. Hussein Shimelis, University of KwaZulu Natal

1300 - 1400 LUNCH BREAK

1400 - 1500 **SESSION 15: POSTERS/EXHIBITIONS VIEWING (Hall D, Foyer & Business Lounge)**

SESSION 16: Closing Ceremony

Session Chair: Prof. George Kanyama-Phiri, RUFORUM Deputy Board Chair and Vice Chancellor Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Session Rapporteurs: Ms. Jacqueline Nnam and Mrs. Sylvia Chindime Mkandawire, RUFORUM Secretariat

1500 - 1530	RUFORUM Recognition Awards: Prof. Adipala Ekwamu Executive Secretary, RUFORUM
1530 - 1550	Conference Communique, Prof. Linus Opara Stellenbosch University
1550 - 1600	Statement by Prof. Ashraf El-Shihy, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Egypt and Chair AU STC-EST (Invited)
1600 - 1610	Statement by Hon. Dr. Fred Okengo Matiang'i, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Education, Kenya
1610 - 1620	Statement by Hon. Emmanuel Fabiano, Minister of Education, Science and Technology, Malawi
1620 - 1650	Closing Address by His Excellency Dr. Martial De-Paul Ikounga, Commissioner for Human Resource, Science and Technology, African Union Commission
1650 - 1700	Vote of Thanks by Prof. Mabel Imbuga, RUFORUM Board Chair
1900 - 2100	EVENING FUNCTION: CLOSING DINNER CCCC Square

SCHEDULE FOR POST CONFERENCE EVENTS

Day	MORNING	BREAK	MID-MORNING	LUNCH	AFTERNOON	BREAK	EVENING
SATURDAY 22 nd October, 2016	Departures Meeting of LOC, ROC, and Malawi 2017 AGM Committee (Meeting Room 11, CCCC)	1000 - 1030	Departures Meeting of LOC, ROC, and Malawi 2017 AGM Committee (Meeting Room 11, CCCC)	1300 - 1400	Departures	1645 - 1730	Departures

Additional Room Space Allocation at CCCC Throughout the week

Meeting Room 1, CCCC; RUFORUM Secretariat

Meeting Room 2, CCCC; RUFORUM/AGRINATURA Partnership Meetings on Proposal Development

Meeting Room 3, CCCC; RUFORUM/AGRINATURA Partnership Meetings on Proposal Development

Meeting Room 4, CCCC; Go Trolley Interview and Filming

Meeting Room 5, CCCC; Press and Social Media Reporters

The 5th African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Theme: Linking Agricultural Universities with Civil Society, the Private Sector, Governments and other Stakeholders in support of Agricultural Development in Africa

Venue: Century City Conference Centre, Cape Town, South Africa

Dates: 15th - 21th October 2016

Parallel Technical Session Programme

Wednesday 19 October, 2016	
SESSION 5: PARALLEL SESSIONS AND SIDE EVENTS (1415-1630)	
1415 - 1630	<p>Session 5.1: Collaboration in the Area of Soil Science (Manhattan Suites) Convener: World Bank, Eurasian Center for Food Security, and RUFORUM Secretariat</p>
1415 - 1630	<p>Session 5.2: Universities-CGIAR, REC, SRO, and NARI Partnership (Hall A, CCCC) Chair: Prof. Bongani Ndimba, ARC and Rapporteur, Dr Lerato Mtsaunyane, ARC Opening: Dr. Shadrack Moephuli, CEO & President of Agriculture Research Council, South Africa</p>
1415 - 1630	<p>Session 5.3: Partnership to Strengthen Higher Education (Meeting Room 2, CCCC) Convener: AGRINATURA and RUFORUM Secretariat Chair: Didier Pilot AGRINATURA and Rapporteur: Emmanuel Okalany, RUFORUM Secretariat</p>
1415 - 1630	<p>Session 5.4: FoodAfrica - Turning Research into Opportunities for Agribusiness (Meeting Room 7, CCCC) Convener: Natural Resources Institute Finland Rapporteur: Henry Massa Makuma</p>
1415 - 1630	<p>Session 5.5: Innovating sustainable partnership in nutrition (Meeting Room 9, CCCC) Convener: SANBio Rapporteur: Dr. Paul Nampala, RUFORUM Secretariat</p>
1415 - 1630	<p>Session 5.6: Communication Tools Venue: Crystal Towers Convener: Platform for African European Partnerships in Agricultural Research for Development (PAEPARD)</p>
1415 - 1630	<p>Session 5.7: Round Table Meeting of Ugandan Vice Chancellors and the Minister of State for Higher Education, Uganda Meeting Room 2, CCCC Rapporteur: Ms. Florence Nakayiwa, Makerere University</p>
1415 - 1630	<p>Session 5.8: Addressing Risk Associated with Climate Change and Variability in Agricultural Systems (Hall B, CCCC) Chair: Prof. Jemal Yusuf, Haramaya University and Rapporteur: Prof. Danie Vermeulen University of Free State</p>
1415 - 1630	<p>Session 5.9: Sustainable Intensification within Smallholder Crop Value Chains (Hall C, CCCC) Chair: Prof. Achille Ephrem Assogbadjo University of Abomey Calavi and Rapporteur Dr. Flora Chadare, University of Abomey Calavi</p>
1415 - 1630	<p>Session 5.10: Marine Science and Blue Economy – Fisheries and Aquaculture (Meeting Room 8, CCCC) Chair: Prof. Emmanuel Kaunda, LUANAR and Rapporteur: Prof. Sam-Amoah Livingstone, University of Cape Coast</p>
1415 - 1630	<p>Session 5.11: Innovations in Higher Education: University Private Sector Collaboration (Hall 10, CCCC) Chair: Prof Danie Brink Faculty of Agrisciences, Stellenbosch University and Rapporteur: Mr. Waswa Moses, RUFORUM Secretariat</p>
1415 - 1630	<p>Session 5.12: Agricultural Marketing Pathways, Product Update, Trade and Policy (Meeting Room 11, CCCC) Chair: Prof. Jean Lubuma, University of Pretoria and Rapporteur: Dr. Madola Mathews, RUFORUM Secretariat</p>

1415 - 1430	<p>Opening: Mr. Juergen Voegele, Senior Director of Agriculture and Global Practices for the World Bank</p>	<p>Safflower Germplasm Evaluation for Botswana Conditions Emongor, E.V.</p>	<p>Sectorial appraisal of investor and consumer uptake potential for polychaete culture enterprises along the Kenyan coastline Kihia, C. M.</p>	<p>Opening: Private sector investments in capacity building, research and technology scale out along the agricultural value chain: Dr. Rufaro Madakadze Program Officer, Education and Training, Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa</p>	<p>Opening: Agricultural Marketing Pathways, Product update, Trade and Policy in Africa Mrs. Anne Mbaabu, Head Market Harvest and Management Gathoni, Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa</p>
1430 - 1445	<p>Mapping rangeland degradation by using rainfall and remote sensing data, north-eastern region, Sudan Muna. M. E.</p>	<p>Evaluation of polymorphisms among South African winter wheat varieties Chemonges, M.</p>	<p>Ecological impacts of common carp and the African sharp tooth catfish: a comparative review Chirwa, E.R</p>	<p>Scoping on Professionalization issues in extension and advisory services Davis, K.E.</p>	<p>Nutritive value of cooking melon from diverse processed products as energy source for livestock Madibela, O. R.</p>
1445 - 1500	<p>Effect of rainwater harvesting practices on maize physiology under climate variability in Ruzizi plain, Eastern DR Congo Bagalwa, M.E.</p>	<p>Temporal development of sorghum anthracnose in Uganda Akwero, A.</p>	<p>Effect of organic and inorganic fertilizers on natural food composition and performance of African catfish fry produced under artificial propagation Mosha, S. S.</p>	<p>Public-Private-University partnerships in agriculture science research for economic development in Africa: Lessons from North Carolina's Research Triangle Park. Kadzere, C.T.</p>	<p>Economic viability and competitiveness of processed cassava products among rural women in north and north eastern Uganda Ajok, W</p>
1500 - 1515	<p>Does adoption of climate smart agriculture technologies reduce household poverty? Maguza-Tembo, F.</p>	<p>Yield stability of promiscuous soybean genotypes in Uganda Agoyi, E.E.</p>	<p>Economic analysis of small-scale fish farming in Bunda, Lilongwe, Malawi Mussa, H.</p>	<p>The African Centre of Agro-Ecology and Livelihood Systems (ACALISE): A World Bank Project at Uganda Martyrs University Mwine, J.</p>	<p>Innovations in cassava value chain that enhances the productivity of cassava farmers and small-scale poultry producers in Nigeria and Burkina Faso Okoli, I.C.</p>
1515 - 1530	<p>Improving resilience of rural women to climate change in Western Sudan Mohammed, A. A. H.</p>	<p>Prevalence of small hive beetle in Uganda Agaba, A.</p>	<p>Growth performance of <i>Clarias gariepinus</i> hatchlings fed enzyme pre-digested dry diets from first feeding Kemigabo, C.</p>	<p>Developing capacity at higher education institutions to enhance the potential of innovations in agriculture Ekong, J.</p>	<p>Nutritional composition and sensory evaluation of jam and juice processed from shea fruit pulp from Uganda Apio, R. N.</p>
1530 - 1545	<p>Camel forage range in Uganda's dryland Salamula, J.B.</p>	<p>Stability of durum wheat varieties in northwestern Ethiopia Fentaw, A</p>	<p>Effect of incubation water flow rate and egg population density on hatching success of <i>Oreochromis karongae</i> Valeta, J.</p>	<p>Establishment and piloting of post graduate programmes in selected post conflict countries Majaliwa, M</p>	<p>Application of edible insects in enriching complementary foods made from common plant sources Mmari, M.</p>
1545 - 1600	<p>Water stress effects on common bean genotypes with four growth habits Chantiro, S.</p>	<p>Efficacy of antagonistic fungal isolates in management of diseases in snap beans Fulano, A. M.</p>	<p>Recruitment pattern and abundance of the black tiger shrimp in Andoni River System, Niger Delta Region of Nigeria Komi, W. Gentile</p>	<p>Makerere University regional center for crop improvement Edema, R.</p>	<p>Physico-chemical, microbiological and sensory qualities of probiotic yoghurt enriched with baobab pulp Aluko, A.</p>
1600 - 1615	<p>Contribution of camel production to household well-being amongst pastoralists in Karamoja sub-Region Asiimwe, R.</p>	<p>Response to cold stress at reproductive stage of introduced and adapted rice genotypes in Uganda Nyramugisha, J.</p>	<p>Effects of polychaete based diets on Growth and survival of Tiger shrimp Juveniles Muli, B. M.</p>	<p>What lessons from public spending allocation towards improving performance in the framework of Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)? Case of Togo from 2010 to 2014 Lao, K.</p>	<p>Development and acceptability evaluation of millet-sesame-soy complementary food composite for rural communities Nassanga, P.</p>

1615 - 1630	Sorghum and sesame markets performance under climate change in Sudan Elgali, M. B.	Integrated management of Orobanche Crenata In Faba Bean In Ethiopia Tsehaye, B.	Using Trematocranus placodon, a molluscivorous cichlid from Lake Malawi, as a biological control agent of schistosomiasis snail hosts Jere, W.W.L.	Higher Education Policy Management and Governance in Malawi Kalizang'oma, R.	Formulation of infant foods fortified with baobab fruit pulp and moringa leaf powder for under-five-years old children Chadare, F.J.
Thursday 20 October, 2016					
SESSION 10: PARALLEL SESSIONS AND SIDE EVENTS (1115-1300)					
1115 - 1300	<p>Session 10.1: Joint META Learning on Higher Education (Hall A, CCCC) Opening Remarks by Dr. Aldo Stroebel, NRF South Africa Keynote Presentation by Prof. Silas Lwakabamba, Vice Chancellor, University of Kibungo Rapporteur: Dr. Moses Osiru, RUFORUM Secretariat</p> <p>Session 10.2: Positive Youth Development and Experiential Learning in University Outreach (Meeting Room 9, CCCC) Convener: INNOVATE Rapporteur: Mr. Opolot Deogracious, Makerere University</p> <p>Session 10.3: Integrating Video-Mediated Rural Learning In University Curricula (Crystal Towers) Convener: RUFORUM Secretariat and Access Agriculture Rapporteur: Jackie Nham, RUFORUM Secretariat</p> <p>Session 10.4: Preplanning Meeting for the Ministerial Roundtable Discussions: (By invitation only, Venue: Manhattan Suites) Convener: RUFORUM Secretariat Rapporteur: Dr. Madola Mathews, RUFORUM Secretariat</p>				
1115 - 1300	<p>Session 10.5: The Sustainable Intensification Within Smallholder Crop and Livestock Value Chains (Hall B, CCCC) Chair: Dr. Mick Sikaenyi Mwala, University of Zambia and Rapporteur: Dr. Vinya Royd, Copperbelt University</p>	<p>Session 10.6: Strengthening Community Engagement and Innovation Platforms (Hall C, CCCC) Hosted by University of Venda (UNIVEN): Chair: Prof. Peter Mbat, Vice Chancellor, University of Venda and Rapporteur: Dr. Nampala Paul, RUFORUM Secretariat</p>	<p>Session 10.7: Partnerships and Innovations to Strengthen Higher Education in Africa (Meeting Room 11, CCCC) Chair: Dr. Bobe Bedadi, Haramaya University and Rapporteur: Dr. Solange Uwituze, RUFORUM Secretariat</p>	<p>Session 10.8: Reducing Postharvest Losses (Meeting Room 7, CCCC) Chair and Rapporteur, Prof Linus Opara, Stellenbosch University and Rapporteur: Prof. Fawole Olaniyia, SACPT, Stellenbosch University</p>	<p>Session 10.9: Strengthening Gender Mainstreaming to Enhance Agricultural Productivity (Meeting Room 8, CCCC) Chair: Ms. Pauline Bomett, AWARD and Rapporteur: Mr. Charles Owour, RUFORUM Secretariat</p>
1115 - 1300	<p>Session 10.10: Sustainable Environment and Natural Resources Management (Room 10, CCCC) Chair: Prof. Romain Kakai, University of Abomey Calavi and Rapporteur: Dr. Egeru Anthony, RUFORUM Secretariat</p>	<p>Session 10.11: Sustainable Intensification Within Smallholder Livestock Value Chains (Meeting Room 5, CCCC) Chair: Prof. Aghdasi Farhad, University of Fort Hare and Rapporteur: Dr. Willis Owino, Jomo Kenyatta University go Agriculture and technology</p>	<p>Session 10.12: Pyrolysis of blended and non-blended residues of pine and eucalyptus forestry woods Kizza, R.</p>	<p>Session 10.13: A Mathematical Aso-Oke: Ndebele dolls, vertex-edge graphs, cryptology and number patterns in the lives of African women in agricultural research and development (AWARD) Nkechi, M. A.</p>	<p>Session 10.14: Novel non-destructive techniques to characterize fruit non internal components to detect presence of defects and disorders Arendse, E.</p>
1115 - 1130	<p>Opening: Pathways to secure smallholder farmer seed security Okori, P.</p>	<p>Opening: Positioning Universities to undertake outreach for impact on community University of Venda</p>	<p>Opening: Dr. Beatrice Muganda Director, Higher Education, PASGR</p>	<p>Opening: Dr. Beatrice Muganda Director, Higher Education, PASGR</p>	<p>Opening: Dr. Beatrice Muganda Director, Higher Education, PASGR</p>

1130 - 1145	Allocative efficiency in potato production in lowland areas of Uganda Kemigisha, S.S.	USAID contribution to research and higher education in Africa Duca, K.	Development and evolution of the relevant agriculture curricula in the secondary and tertiary education sector in South Africa Poswal, M.A.T.	Effects of extraction solvent on quality attributes and functional properties of pomegranate Kernel Oil Ampem, G	Gender based impacts of climate change and adaptation strategies in Raya Azebo District, Tigray Region, Ethiopia. Negasi, M.	Socio-economic drivers of ecosystem service provision Ssengabi, M.	Assessment of indigenous chicken production in Western Kenya Tarus, J.K.
1145 - 1200	Evaluation of cassava genotype's response to hot water therapy for efficient cassava Virus elimination Nangonzi R.	Positioning rural women agri-entrepreneurs to address short-term hunger and undernutrition in rural primary schools Ongeng, D.	Science for development and EU-Africa advanced training partnerships: the case of TropiKMan PhD programme Macedo, J.B.	Postharvest chemical treatments to preserve sensory quality and reduce losses of pomegranate fruit Atukuri, J.	Factors affecting academic performance of female students at Mekelle University, Ethiopia Brhanu-Gebrehiwot, D.	Ecological and Socio-economic evaluation of dryland agroforestry systems in east africa Syano, N.M.	Random regression analyses using B-spline functions to model the growth of large white pigs Ouko, V.O.
1200 - 1215	Invasions by insects in Mozambique – a threat to agricultural production and food security Cugala, D	Enhancing community media to strengthen gender mainstreaming for better agricultural outputs for effective food policy in Africa Okaka, E.	Promoting the African endogenous innovation for sustainable development: the AFRICA-ai-JAPAN initiative Losenge, T.	A forensic approach to detecting and reducing pathological causes of fruit spoilage along the value chain. a case study of pomegranates Munhuweyi, K.	Students' perceptions of the first-year experience in higher education: the case of Women's University in Africa Raymond Zvavanange, E.	Diversity and utilization of selected indigenous fruit trees in Northern Uganda Ogwali, H.	Genetic diversity of Mycobacterium tuberculosis, drug resistance and atypical mycobacteria in Rwanda Uwirimana, I.
1215 - 1230	Adoption and welfare effects of integrated soil fertility management technology among smallholder maize and pigeon pea farmers Marco, B.S.	Exploring agri-innovation hubs: the concept of collective agricultural technology innovation in stimulating development Verschoor, A.	Innovations in Implementing Human and Institutional Capacity Development (HICD) with Agricultural Higher Education Institutions (AHEI): the iAGRI Approach Erbaugh, J.M.	Resistance to airflow and cooling characteristics of pomegranate fruit during precooling inside ventilated cartons Mukama, M.	Farmers groups and extension impact: Exploring female farmer's roles, levels of participation and livelihood benefits within Milk Bulking Groups of Dowra and Dedza districts in Malawi Mvula, N.	Characterisation of Baobab in selected wild populations in Malawi Jenya, H.	Contamination of indigenous chicken feeds with mycotoxigenic fungi and mycotoxins in western Kenya Owiro, N.O.
1230 - 1245	Pathogenicity of pineapple heart rot disease causal organisms in Central Uganda Ocwaa, A.	Refocusing the student – farmer attachment of Gulu University for improving marketing efficiency of smallholder farmers in northern Uganda Kalule, S.W.	Borlaug Higher Education for Agricultural Research Development (BHEARD) program develops human and institutional capacity in Africa Schneller, A.	Unpacking the influence of internal package on fruit cooling rate, energy utilization during precooling and storage Lufu, R.	Promoting use of ICTs for empowerment of rural women farmers in Uganda Aptlo, L.M.	Characterising wetland hydrology and water quality in streams and wetlands of Khalong-la-Lithunya, Lesotho Mots'ets'e, M.	Awareness and control methods of Gastrointestinal parasites of Merino Sheep among farmers of Maseru district, Lesotho Mahlela, M.A.
1245 - 1300	Evaluation of biochemical components as a mechanism of cassava resistance to Bemisia tabaci in Uganda Mwila, N.	Developing effective community radio to strengthen community engagement for diffusion of agricultural innovations to achieve SDG2 in Africa by 2030 Okaka, W.	Public-Private Partnerships for Skills Development at Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania Mullei, M.	Experimental Studies to improve Mechanical design of ventilated Fresh Produce Package Tobi, F.	Rural youth participation in Agriculture: Exploring the significance and challenges using a Zambian context Kwenye, J.M.	Spatial variability of hydric soil properties in Khalong-la-Lithunya wetlands Rasekoele, M.G.	Grass seed value chain analysis in the southern Kenya rangelands of Makueni and Kajiao Counties Omollo, E.
1300 - 1400	LUNCH BREAK						

SESSION 11: PARALLEL SESSIONS AND SIDE EVENTS (1400-1730)	
1400 - 1730	<p>Session 11.1: Joint META Learning on Higher Education (Hall A, CCCC) Rapporteur: Dr. Moses Osiru, RUFORUM Secretariat</p>
1400 - 1730	<p>Session 11.2: Positive Youth Development and Experiential Learning in University Outreach (Meeting Room 9, CCCC) Convener: INNOVATE Rapporteur: Mr. Opolot Deogracious, Makerere University</p>
1400 - 1730	<p>Session 11.3: Integrating video-mediated rural learning in university curricula (Crystal Towers) Convener: RUFORUM Secretariat and Access Agriculture Rapporteur: Jackie Namm, RUFORUM Secretariat</p>
1400 - 1730	<p>Session 11.4: Development Partners Round Table Meeting (By invitation only) Venue: Manhattan Suites and Conferencing Moderator: Dr. Leif Christoffersen, RUFORUM IAP Member Rapporteur: Dr. Osiru Moses, RUFORUM Sec.</p>
1400 - 1730	<p>Session 11.5: AGRINATURA-RUFORUM Erasmus Working Session (Meeting Room 6, CCCC)</p>
1400 - 1730	<p>Session 11.6: Communication Tools Venue: Crystal Towers Convener: PAEPARD</p>
1400 - 1730	<p>Session 11.7: Round Table Meeting of Kenyan Vice Chancellors and Cabinet Secretary for Education, Kenya Meeting Room 3, CCCC</p>
1400 - 1730	<p>Session 11.8: Round Table Meeting of Sudanese Vice Chancellors and Minister for Higher Education and Scientific Research, Sudan Meeting Room 5, CCCC</p>
1400 - 1730	<p>Session 11.9: The Sustainable intensification within smallholder crop value chains (Hall B, CCCC) Chair: Prof. Julius Ochondo, University of Eldoret and Rapporteur: Prof. Elizabeth Omami, University of Eldoret</p>
1400 - 1730	<p>Session 11.10: Strengthening community engagement and innovation platforms (Hall C, CCCC) Chair: Prof. Nyeke Pen-Mogi, Vice Chancellor, Gulu University and Rapporteur: Prof. Godwin Mchau, University of Venda</p>
1400 - 1730	<p>Session 11.11: Partnerships and Innovations to Strengthen Higher Education in Africa (Meeting Room 11, CCCC) Session Chair, Prof. Agnes Mwangombe, University of Nairobi and Rapporteur: Mr. John Kalungi, RUFORUM Secretariat</p>
1400 - 1730	<p>Session 11.12: Reducing postharvest losses (Meeting Room 7, CCCC) Chair: Prof. John Muyonga, Makerere University and Rapporteur: Dr. Ahamada Zziwa, Makerere University</p>
1400 - 1730	<p>Session 11.13: Agricultural Marketing Pathways, Product Update, Trade and Policy (Meeting Room 8, CCCC) Chair: Dr. Laetitia Nyinawamwiza, University of Rwanda and Rapporteur: Dr. Charles Bucagu, University of Rwanda</p>
1400 - 1730	<p>Session 11.14: The Sustainable intensification within smallholder Livestock value chains (Meeting Room 10, CCCC) Chair: Prof. Ebere Erondu, University of Port Harcourt and Rapporteur: Ms. Sally Chikuffa, Makerere University</p>
1400 - 1730	<p>Session 11.15: Crop Improvement (Room 5, CCCC) Chair Prof. Patrick Rubaihayo Patrick, Makerere University and Rapporteur Mr. Jordan Adaku, Makerere University</p>
1400 - 1415	<p>Mountainous ecosystems in the production of Arabica coffee Cherukut.S.</p>
1400 - 1415	<p>Linking African Agricultural Universities to research-users through the multi-stakeholder partnerships: experience from PAEPARD Mugabe, J.M.</p>
1400 - 1415	<p>Kenya: Building the University sector of the future Mukhwana, E.</p>
1400 - 1415	<p>Antioxidants capacity of pomegranate in different microclimates Mavengere, W.N.</p>
1400 - 1415	<p>Mainstreaming seed demand forecasting in the agenda of private and public sector seed actors Dagnoko S.S.</p>
1400 - 1415	<p>Livestock diseases and perception of the communities on the effect of lake baringo flooding on animal health Kiprono Sigei, W.</p>
1400 - 1415	<p>Response Of Winter And Spring Barley Genotypes To Biotic And Abiotic Stresses In Kenya Were, J. O.</p>

1415 - 1430	Evaluation of Mungbean spacing for adaptability in smallholder cropping systems Ajio, F.	University community engagement: cassava value chain research for development Mukasa, S.B.	Sandwich Programmes for PhD studies at the agriculture – environment interface Walker, S.	Respiration rate dynamics of Apple buds exposed to chemical rest breaking agents Inamahoro, M.	Effect of supplementing steers with graded levels of concentrate on rumen environment and degradation kinetics of <i>Chloris gayana</i> hay Semwogerere, F.	Fish Parasites And Their Effects On Fish Production In Relation to Extreme Flooding Of Lake Baringo, Kenya Orinda, O.	Factors influencing farm genetic diversity of Sorghum in Northern and Eastern Uganda Businge, M.
1430 - 1445	The Small-scale maize farmer's perception that influence the choice of weed control technologies in Swaziland Khumalo, M.	University of Port Harcourt linkage with Agricultural Organizations in Nigeria: The Journey so far Adesope, O.M.	Unlocking Africa's agricultural development through public-private partnerships, supportive curricula and agriculture friendly policy Kadzere, C.T.	Developing Cowpea and Bean Genotypes with Tolerance to Bruchid Beetle Tembo, L.	Potent inhibitors of iron bioavailability in germinated maize used for complementary feeding in Tanzania Mihatu, F.D.	Genetic characterization of multi-drug resistant trypanosome variants in endemic regions of coastal Kenya Akinyi Opondo, S. W.	Identification of Turicum Leaf Blight Resistance Genes in Sorghum using Comparative Genomics Beshir, M.M.
1445 - 1500	Weed species composition in soils from three agro-ecological zones of Swaziland Mncube, T. L.	Innovation Platforms as accelerators to Agricultural technology adoption in Ghana Adu-Appiah, A.	Challenges and opportunities for regional capacity building for sustainable natural resources management and agricultural productivity under changing climate: A case of South Sudan Kyamanywa, S.	Pre and post-harvest management practices of Groundnut Production and their implication to Aflatoxin Management in Tigray, Ethiopia GebreEgzabher, H.	Effect of pre-treatments and drying on nutrient content of orange fleshed sweet potatoes in Maswa District, Tanzania Nicanuru, C.	Applications of mathematical models to show and resolve the effect of multi-drug resistance in trypanosomes Wangwe, I. I.	Water stress effects on common bean genotypes with four growth habits Chantiro S.
1500 - 1515	Bacterial leaf streak disease of Rice: A silent constraint to Rice production in Uganda Andaku, J.L.	Agrienterprise development as pathway to youth and rural development in sub-Saharan Africa: The case of agrienterprise business prototypes at Egerton University Otieno D. O.	GFPLUS Doctoral Training Partnership: a transdisciplinary research and academic vehicle for supporting sustainable agricultural diversification Mustafa, M.A.	Performance Evaluation of Self-propelled Sesame harvesting Cutter Binder under Gedarif Farming Conditions, Gedarif State, Sudan Nikechi, M. A.	Anaerobic co-digestion of matooke peels with other selected household wastes to optimize methane production Tumutegereize, P.	Are tradition goats of Uganda under threat? Perspectives from smallholder farmers from North eastern Uganda Acaitum, M.	Grain yield and yield components of cowpea under different agro-ecological zones in Uganda S. Agbanhoungba
1515 - 1530	Prevalence of Varroa mite infestations among honey bee colonies in Uganda Namayanja, D.	Characteristics of effective nutrition-agricultural extension interventions: lessons from civil society extension organizations in Uganda Sitenda, T.	Innovative research and teaching methods towards creation of Entrepreneurs Sita, D.N.	Effect of pre-treatments and drying on nutrient content of Orange Fleshed Sweet Potatoes in Maswa District, Tanzania Nicanuru, C.	Proximate composition, cooking time and acceptance of whole and dehulled pigeon peas varieties in Malawi Machinjili, T.	Dry season feeding strategies employed by smallholder farmers in Mukono, Uganda Mukasa, D.J.	Potential of fertilizers to improve terraced soil fertility and maize yields Fashaho, A.
1530 - 1545	Sources and inheritance of resistance to Sesame Webworm in Uganda Matina, G.D.	Promoting farmer entrepreneurship among smallholders in Uganda Mukasa, H.	RUFORUM Trains the Next Generation of Scientists in Sudan: The Case of The Agricultural Research Corporation, University of Gezira and University of Kordofan Mayada, M.B.	Development of a Flue Chilli Dryer for Smallholder Farmers in Malawi Mwijnjilo, M.L.	Evaluation of safflower genotypes under the semi-arid conditions Oarabile, P.	What is the molecular and ecological role of wild pigs in the epidemiology of african swine fever at the wildlife-livestock interface in Uganda Ogweng, P.	Phenotypic evaluation and determination of nutrient composition of high yielding elite sorghum genotypes bred for semi-arid areas of Kenya Arodi, N.

1545 - 1600	Response to selection and heritability for dry matter content and associated traits in yam bean Agaba, R.	Strengthening rural households hygiene and sanitation using locally available resources: A case of aloe vera soap production in Ethiopia Kidu, G.	Enhancing undergraduates competitiveness in agribusiness to strengthen University-Agribusiness Industry linkage Adesope, O.M.	Farmers' perceptions and their implications on the use of rice postharvest handling technologies and practices in Eastern Uganda Ssebaggala, G. L.	Microbiological and compositional quality of raw milk delivered by small scale dairy farmers to the milk collection centres Mboya, N	The challenges encountered in diagnosing African Swine Fever in Uganda: Are Positives truly Positive? Mayega, J.	On-farm testing of soil fertility management options for increased maize yield in Rwanda Bucagu, C.
1600 - 1615	Diversity of sorghum on farmers' fields in Northern and Eastern Uganda Apunyo, P.C.	University community linkage: selection and piloting of agro-innovation enterprise clusters to enhance income of households in rural areas of Tigray region, northern Ethiopia Dawit, G.	Contribution of Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology to Capacity Building of Agricultural Researchers Ogemah, V.	Reducing pre-harvest aflatoxin content in groundnuts through soil water management Chalwe, H.	Improving the protein and micronutrient quality of cassava meal (Gari) for application in primary school feeding in Uganda Elolu, S.	Performance of Broiler and Layer Chicken Fed on Diets based on Sweet Sorghum (Sorghum bicolor L. MOENCH) as an Alternative Source of Energy Mburu, J.	Dual tolerance to drought and nitrogen stress in maize Abdul-Rahaman, I..
1615 - 1630	HEALTH BREAK						
1630 - 1645	Evaluation of the response of rice genotypes to bacterial leaf streak disease in Uganda Kanaabi, M.	Analysis of entrepreneurship development at Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUAN): a case study of the agripreneur program Mabe, R.	Regional distribution and the characteristics of students enrolling for Agricultural Higher Education in Uganda Nakayiwa, F.	Proximate Composition and Selected Functional Properties of Complementary Foods from Teff Fortified with Soybean and Orange-Fleshed Sweet Potato Tenagashaw, M. W.	Characterization of water absorption properties of a partial bio-composite made from cotton stalk fibres and phenol formaldehyde resin Nkosilathi Nkomo, Z.	Effect of Low Tannin Sorghum Based Diets On Broiler Meat And Layer Egg Nutritional And Sensory Qualities. Adhiambo Ochieng', B.	Safflower Germplasm Evaluation for Botswana Conditions Phuduhudu, D.
1645 - 1700	Morphological variation of baobab fruits and seeds traits in smallholders farming systems in Benin Hounsou-Dindin, G.	Embedding community engagement in University training curricula: Experiences from Gulu University in Uganda Kalule, S.	Pedagogy in digital learning in food education Kautola, H.	Nutritional composition and sensory evaluation of jam and juice processed from Shea pulp from Uganda Napio, R.	Socio-psychological determinants of the consumption oriented production of biofortified sweet potato among rural households in Uganda Ndaula, S.	Assessment of indigenous chicken production in western Kenya Tirus, K.	Phenotypic and serological screening of okra genotypes against Okra mosaic virus infection under field conditions Asare-Bediako, E.
1700 - 1715	Application of next generation sequencing in identification of cowpea viruses Mbeyagala, K.E.	A Secret to Success in Proposal Development: A Lesson for Young and Emerging Scientists Weisheit, A.	Strengthening Capacity for effective smallholder farmers through university research and government partnerships Thembi, N.	Nutritional quality of a Pineapple-Carrot-Ginger Beverage Abano, E. E.	Mapping traditional food vehicles traditionally fortified with Moringa leaf powder and baobab fruit pulp for infant food in Benin Affontere, M.	Resource flow and marketing of indigenous chicken in Uganda Lubandi, C.	Cowpea resistance to scab fungus in Uganda: Can resistance be achieved using landraces as source of genes? Afutu, E.
1715 - 1730	Performance of wild blackberry species in Kenya under conventional production Omondi, K.O.	Facilitated Round Table Discussions on Models for university outreach and community engagement	Strengthening capacity building in data analysis in west african universities and research institutions: a three-year experience of the master programme in biostatistics at the university of Abomey-Calavi, Benin, Romain, L.G.K.	Foliar nutrition regimes of combined boron and calcium minerals ameliorate photo-thermal stress tolerance in apple fruits Mwije, A.	Understanding and reducing susceptibility of fresh produce to physical damage during postharvest handling: The case of pomegranate fruit Hussein, Z.	Breeding and selection criteria practices of indigenous chicken in eastern and western Uganda Semahoro, F.	Resistance to blast in interspecific finger millet progenies Akech, V.

Friday 21st October, 2016

HEALTH BREAK

SESSION 14: PARALLEL SESSIONS AND SIDE EVENTS (1115-1300)

1115 - 1300
Session 14.1: Ministerial Round Table Policy Dialogue-By invitation) (Crystal Towers)
 Moderators: Dr. Lindwe Majele Sibanda (FANRPAN)
 Rapporteur: Dr. Moses Osiru, RUFORUM Secretariat

1115 - 1300
Session 14.2: Strengthening Doctoral Training through DAAD in RUFORUM Universities (Meeting Room 2, CCCC)
 Convener: RUFORUM Secretariat and DAAD
 Rapporteur: Dr. Solange Uwituze, RUFORUM Secretariat

1115 - 1300
Session 14.3: Integrating video-mediated rural learning in university curricula (Meeting Room 11, CCCC)
 Convener: RUFORUM Secretariat and Access Agriculture
 Rapporteur: Jackie Nham, RUFORUM Secretariat

1115 - 1130
Session 14.4: Sustainable Intensification Within Smallholder Crop Value Chains (Hall A, CCCC)
 Chair Prof. Hany A. El-Shemy, Cairo University and Rapporteur: Mr. Afutu Emmanuel, Makerere University

1115 - 1130
Session 14.5: Focusing on Agricultural Value chains for Effective Community Action Research (Meeting Room 7, CCCC)
 Chair: Prof. Kay Muir-Leresche, Chair RUFORUM Technical Committee and Rapporteur: Dr. Bernard Obaa, Makerere University

1115 - 1130
Session 14.6: ICTs in Agriculture (Meeting Room 8, CCCC)
 Chair: Prof. Pinkie Zwane, University of Swaziland and Rapporteur: Dr. Nadia Fanou, University of Abomey Calavi

1115 - 1130
Session 14.7: e-Learning and Distance Education (Hall B, CCCC)
 Chair: Prof. Didier Pilot, AGRINATURA and Rapporteur: Dr. Valeta Joshua, LUANAR

1115 - 1130
Session 14.8: Sustainable Intensification Within Smallholder Crop Value Chains (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)
 Chair: Prof. Albert Modiat, University of KwaZulu Natal and Prof. Hussein Shimelis, University of KwaZulu Natal

1115 - 1130
Session 14.9: Sustainable Intensification Within Smallholder Crop Value Chains (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)
 Chair: Prof. Albert Modiat, University of KwaZulu Natal and Prof. Hussein Shimelis, University of KwaZulu Natal

1130 - 1145
Session 14.10: Sustainable Intensification Within Smallholder Crop Value Chains (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)
 Chair: Prof. Albert Modiat, University of KwaZulu Natal and Prof. Hussein Shimelis, University of KwaZulu Natal

1130 - 1145
Session 14.11: Sustainable Intensification Within Smallholder Crop Value Chains (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)
 Chair: Prof. Albert Modiat, University of KwaZulu Natal and Prof. Hussein Shimelis, University of KwaZulu Natal

1145 - 1200
Session 14.12: Sustainable Intensification Within Smallholder Crop Value Chains (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)
 Chair: Prof. Albert Modiat, University of KwaZulu Natal and Prof. Hussein Shimelis, University of KwaZulu Natal

1145 - 1200
Session 14.13: Sustainable Intensification Within Smallholder Crop Value Chains (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)
 Chair: Prof. Albert Modiat, University of KwaZulu Natal and Prof. Hussein Shimelis, University of KwaZulu Natal

1145 - 1200
Session 14.14: Sustainable Intensification Within Smallholder Crop Value Chains (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)
 Chair: Prof. Albert Modiat, University of KwaZulu Natal and Prof. Hussein Shimelis, University of KwaZulu Natal

1145 - 1200
Session 14.15: Sustainable Intensification Within Smallholder Crop Value Chains (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)
 Chair: Prof. Albert Modiat, University of KwaZulu Natal and Prof. Hussein Shimelis, University of KwaZulu Natal

1145 - 1200
Session 14.16: Sustainable Intensification Within Smallholder Crop Value Chains (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)
 Chair: Prof. Albert Modiat, University of KwaZulu Natal and Prof. Hussein Shimelis, University of KwaZulu Natal

1145 - 1200
Session 14.17: Sustainable Intensification Within Smallholder Crop Value Chains (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)
 Chair: Prof. Albert Modiat, University of KwaZulu Natal and Prof. Hussein Shimelis, University of KwaZulu Natal

1145 - 1200
Session 14.18: Sustainable Intensification Within Smallholder Crop Value Chains (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)
 Chair: Prof. Albert Modiat, University of KwaZulu Natal and Prof. Hussein Shimelis, University of KwaZulu Natal

1145 - 1200
Session 14.19: Sustainable Intensification Within Smallholder Crop Value Chains (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)
 Chair: Prof. Albert Modiat, University of KwaZulu Natal and Prof. Hussein Shimelis, University of KwaZulu Natal

1145 - 1200
Session 14.20: Sustainable Intensification Within Smallholder Crop Value Chains (Meeting Room 10, CCCC)
 Chair: Prof. Albert Modiat, University of KwaZulu Natal and Prof. Hussein Shimelis, University of KwaZulu Natal

1200 - 1215	Developing Striga-Resistant Maize Through Enhancement of Root Lignification via up-regulation of CAD and HCT genes and Embryo Rescue Mwanjani, I.	Effect of seeding rate and multi nutrients on yield and grain quality on Duram Wheat Varieties in Northern Ethiopia Melash, A.	The role of mobile phones in accessing agricultural information by smallholder farmers in Ethiopia Amir, M.	Experiences of using social media to enhance student engagement Mirembe, D.	Community Perceptions on the Role of Indigenous Knowledge in Policy Recommendations for Co-management Modelling Haambiya, L.	Managing Faba Bean Diseases Using Bioinoculants In Northern Ethiopia Tsehaye B.
1215 - 1230	Evaluation of synergistic effects of host plant resistance on the severity of Broomrape infestation and farmer fababean yield Tsehaye, B.	The role of innovation platforms on enhancing market linkage among smallholder dairy frames in Rushoto and Karogwe Districts, Tanzania Putaa, H.	Understanding Customer value as a driver for Customer Loyalty: The case of Airtel – Uganda Delyon, J.	Facilitated discussion on e-Learning	Towards a new role of Agricultural Extension in Nutrition Education: Evidence from western Uganda Shimali, F.	Effect of inter cropping and combined fertilizer application on growth and yield of African Night shade Nyagari, E.O.
1230 - 1245	Identifying widely adapt Mungbean genotypes using farmer preference and selection in eastern Uganda Egwang, S.	Manure management and utilization practices for enhanced productivity of smallholder dairy farming in Tanga Regiona, Tanzania Rukiko, P	The Role of ICT's in enhancing university-smallholder farming community engagement Tulinayo, F.	Facilitated discussion on e-Learning	Consumers' Knowledge and Preferences on Organic Vegetables in Tanzania Sendewa, D.D.	Morphological Characterization of African Night Shade Wesonga, L.
1245 - 1300	Evaluation of Mungbean spacing for adaptability in smallholder cropping systems Ajio, F.	Assessment of animal diseases and reproductive performance for enhancing dairy productivity under smallholder farming in Rushoto and Karogwe Districts Tanzania Kilyenyi, D.	Strengthening communication and knowledge management for increased agricultural productivity: A Ugandan case study Mbigidde, V.A.	Facilitated discussion on e-Learning	Coping with hardship in the Gezira Scheme, Sudan: Farmer's strategy of developing a system of knowledge management Musa, N.S.A.	Nitrogen fixing potential of indigenous Bradyrhizobia nodulating soybean varieties grown in Eastern Kenya Mburu, S.
	Innovative feeding strategies for sustainable dairy productivity among smallholder farmers: A case of Tanga Region, Tanzania Maleko, D.					



POSTER PRESENTATION

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Sub-theme 1: Partnerships and Innovations to Strengthen Higher Education in Africa

1. Influence of trust on partnership formation in value chains: the case of Bugiri and Luwero districts, Uganda.
Rugema, H., Kibwika, P. and Sseguya, H.
2. Short-Term Hunger: The Potential Threat to Universal Primary Education in Kamuli and Soroti Districts, Uganda
Loga D. E., P. Kibwika¹ and F.B. Kyazze.

Sub-theme 2: Strengthening ICT and knowledge Management in Agriculture

3. Towards a New Role of Agricultural Extension in Nutrition Education: Evidence from western Uganda.
Shimali, F., Mangheni, M. N. & Kabahenda, M.
4. Improving agricultural research dissemination through strengthened communication and knowledge management.
Mbigidde, V.A., Kashajja I.N. and Zawedde, B.

Sub-theme 3: Strengthening University Outreach, Community Engagement and Innovation Platforms

5. Farmers' perception on prevalence and gastrointestinal parasites control in goats of Lesotho.
Moiloa, M.J., Matebesi, P.A., Molapo, S., Phoofolo, M.W., Phalatsi, M. and Mahlehla, M.A.
6. Farmers' own evaluation criteria for the continued use of improved maize varieties in Kilosa district Tanzania.
Nchembi, N. S.
7. Innovation Platform to foster compliance with dairy trade regulation requirements among smallholder dairy producers in Nakuru County, Kenya.
Oyugi, M. A., Bebe, B., Omedo, J., Ombati, M. and Kingiri, A.
8. Sustainability of innovation platforms and associations among smallholder dairy farmers in Lushoto and Korogwe districts, Tanzania.
Putaa, H., Chachage, B. and Pasape, L.
9. Farmer Research groups: An efficient and effective tool for uptake of Agricultural innovations among Smallholder farmers in Babati; Tanzania.
Ngozi, S., Mshenga, P. and Hillbur, P.
10. Factors Affecting Farmers' Willingness to participate in wheat Contract Farming: the Case of Northern Ethiopia.
Tekleyohannes, H., Dereje, A., Kebede, M., Berhanu, G. and Tewodros, T.
11. Identification of appropriate production packages for increased African nightshade (*Solanum nigrum* L.) production in Kisii County, Kenya.
Nyagari, E.O., Onyango, C.M. and Onwong'a, R.N.
12. Participatory farmer evaluation of improved and local cowpea varieties in Arua district, Northwestern Uganda.
Tereka, E., Obaa, B., Kibwika, P., Amayo, R., Olupot, G. and Sylvia, N.
13. Small-scale maize farmer's perceptions that influence the choice of weed control technologies: the case of Swaziland.
Khumalo, M. M., Kibirige, D., Mloza-Banda, H. R., Mukabwe, W. O. and Dlamini, B. P.
14. Phenotypic diversity of sorghum on farmers' fields in northern and eastern Uganda.
Apunyo, P.C., Businge, M., Otim, M., Isubikalu, P. & Odong, T.L.
15. Factors affecting sweet potato production and soil fertility challenges among smallholder farmers.
Jepkemboi, C., Kebeney S. J. and Kitilit, J.
16. Community perception of importance, trends, and variations of indigenous grasses in southern Kenya.
Patricia N.L., Ndung'u, O., Wasonga V., William, N. M., Koech, O. K. and Elhadi, Y.
17. Development and assessment of nutritional quality and sensory properties of Orange Fleshed Sweet Potato and Bambara groundnut-based snacks for school children. Honi, B., Mongi, R. J. and Mukisa, I.M.

18. Effect of foods fortified with baobab fruit pulp and moringa leaf powder on the nutritional status of children aged 6 to 59 months in Benin.
Chadare, F.J., Agossadou, J.O., Nago, E., Houndji, S., Madode Y.E., Moumouni, M.I. and Hounhouigan, D.J.
19. Formulation of infant foods fortified with baobab (*Adansonia digitata*) fruit pulp and moringa (*Moringa oleifera*) leaf powder for under-five-years old children. **Affonfere M.**, Chadare F.J., Madode Y.E., Nago E.S.H., Houndji S. & Azokpota P.
20. Knowledge, attitude and practices (KAP) of high tunnel tomato farmers on bacterial wilt and root-knot nematodes in Kiambu County, Central Kenya.
Daisy C. Ngeno, Davis Fundi, Jesca Mbaka, Vitalis Wafula and Lucy K. Murungi.
21. Catalysing rural transformation through a community based approach.
Edimu, M., Atim, P., Ekwamu, R., Orone, J., Omara, T. & Kawuki, R.
22. Morphological variation of baobab fruits and seeds traits in smallholders farming systems in Benin: a preliminary study on baobab leaves production.
Hounsou-Dindin, G., Assogbadjo, A.E., Idohou, R., Salako. V.K. & Glèlè Kakai, R.
23. Improving the protein and micronutrient quality of cassava meal (Gari) for application in primary school feeding in Uganda
Elolu, S., Mugonola, B., Muyanja, C.K. & Ongeng, D.

Sub-theme 4: Sustainable Environment and Natural Resources Management

24. Design and simulation of a solar biomass cooker-dryer for fruits.
Ahumuza, A., Zziwa, R., Kambugu, J. Kigozi and Descamps, M.
25. Adoption of welfare effects of integrated soil fertility management technology among smallholder farmers in Babati district, Tanzania.
Diirro G.
26. Can Edible Insects spare 43,000 lives and save 280M USD annually in Tz?
Mmari, M., Kinyuru, J.N., Laswai, H.S. and Okoth, J.
27. Weed Species Composition in Soils from three Agro-Ecological Zones of Swaziland.
Mncube, T. L., Mloza-Banda, H. R., Kibirige, D, Mukabwe, W. O., Dlamini, B. P.
28. Isotopes hydrology: Advances in assessing wetland functioning.
Mots'ets'e, M., Mapeshoane, B.E., Masopha, M., Khoeli, M.B., Nkheloane, T. and Rasekoele, M.G.
29. Management of Chlorine Decay and Formation of Disinfectant By-products in Drinking Water: A Case of Gaborone City, Botswana.
Nono, D., Odirile, P.T and Parida, B. P.
30. Anaerobic Co-digestion of Matooke Peels with Other Selected Household Wastes to Optimize Methane Production.
Tumutegyerize, P., Ketlogetswe, C., Gandure, J. and Banadda, N.
31. Geostatistical Tools to Delineate and Conserve Wetlands.
Rasekoele, M.G., Mapeshoane, E.B, Khoeli, B.M, Nkheloane, T and Mots'ets'e, M.
32. Adoption of welfare effects of integrated soil fertility management technology among smallholder farmers in Babati district, Tanzania.
Sanka, M. and Diirro G.
33. Symbiotic effectiveness of indigenous brady rhizobia nodulating soybean varieties grown in Eastern Kenya.
Mburua, S. W., Koskeya, G., Kimitib, J. M, Omboric, O., Maingia, J. and Njerua, E. M.
34. Land terracing, its impact on soil properties and potential of Bio-slurry, Nitrogen and Phosphorus fertilizers to improve terraced soil fertility.
Fashaho, A., Ndegwa, M.G., Lelei, J.J. and Musandu, O.A.
35. Mountainous ecosystems in the production of Arabica coffee.
Cherukut, S., Karungi, J., Tumuhairwe, J.B. & Bonabana-Wabbi, J.

36. Environmental and social impacts of *Pteridium aquilinum* (L.) KUHN (Bracken fern) invasive species growing in Nyungwe forest, Rwanda.
Senyanzobe, J.M.V., Mulei, J. M., and Bizuru, E.
37. A Model for Performance Optimization through Application Resource Management in Disease Surveillance Applications in their Operating Environment.
Gudu, J., Balikuddembe, J.
38. Lower level Natural Resources Management Policies Outcomes and Implementation contexts in Kabale District, Uganda.
Kamugisha, R.N.
39. The atmospheric deposition of phosphorus and nitrogen on Lake Kivu.
Bagalwa, M., Majaliwa, M., Kansiime F., Bootsma H.A., Karume K. & Mushagalusa, N.
40. Ecological and Socio-Economic Evaluation of Selected Dryland Agroforestry Systems in East Africa.
Syano, N. M., Wasonga, O.V., Nyangito, M., Kironchi, G. and Egeru, A.
41. Diversity among African nightshade Genotypes (ANS) genotypes found in Kenya Genotypes.
Wesonga, L. N., Onyango, C., Ngugi, K. and. Nyamongo, D.
42. Utilization of indigenous fruit trees in the Lake Victoria basin districts of Rwanda and Uganda
Bigirimana, C., Omuja, F., Isubikal, P., Bizuru, E., Obaa, B., Malinga, M., Agea, J.G. & Okullo, J.B.L.

Sub-theme 5: Sustainable intensification within smallholder Crop Value Chains

43. Inheritance of resistance to *Alectra vogelii* in cowpeas.
Mbwando, A., Lungu, D. M., Tembo, L. and Tryphon, G. M.
44. Mechanisms underlying fertilizer-plant-pathogen interactions in 'greenhouse' cultivated tomato.
Fundi, D., Murungi, L. K., Wekesa V. and Torto B.
45. Efficacy of Soy-Fortified Complementary Foods from Western Kenya.
Elijah, H., Kamau, Wamunga, F. W. & Serrem, C. A.
46. Unlocking climbing bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris*L.) yield potential using elite native rhizobia in Eastern Kenya,
Gilbert Koskey, Simon Wambui Mburu, Jacinta MaliaKimiti, Ezekiel MugendiNjeru, OmwoyoOmbori and John Maingi.
47. Characterisation of Baobab in selected wild populations in Malawi.
Herbert Jenya, Chimuleke R.Y. Munthali and Leonard Manda.
48. Genetic diversity of blackberry (*Rubus* L sub-genus *Rubus* Watson) in Kenya using morphological and DNA markers.
Ochieng', J.A. Gesimba, R.M., Korir, P.C. and Oyoo, M.E.
49. Effect of Biochar on some physical and chemical quality of Mwea and Bura ASAL soils in Kenya.
Keya, S.O., Wanjogu, R.K., Njoka, T.J. and Owilla.
50. Application of next generation sequencing in identification of cowpea viruses.
Mbeyagala, K.E., Mukasa, S.B, Holton, T., Aritua, V., Manpreet S. Katarif, P., Tukamuhabwa, P. and Bisikwa, J.
51. Cowpea is a potential host for Maize Lethal Necrosis viruses: Evidence from RNAseq.
Mbeyagala, K.E., Mukasa, S.B, Holton, T., Tukamuhabwa, P and Bisikwa, J.
52. Indigenous knowledge on the Production of Bush Yam in Ghana.
Mbroh, I., Mensah, A.O., Yawson, D.O., Adu, M.O., Tetteh, J.P. and Fianu, E.A.
53. Nitrogen timing on weed density and diversity in finger millet production in Lake Kyoga basin in Uganda.
Nabirye, D.L, Tenywa J.S and Aguttu G.
54. Macro and micronutrient fertilization and soil amendments for combating poor soil responsiveness in Maize-Desmodium intercrop in western Kenya,
Njogo, S., Otinga, A., Chemutai, M., Kitiliit, J., Njoroge, R., Pepela, M. and Okalebo, J. R.

55. Resistance to Pineapple Heart Rot Disease (PHRD) in central Uganda.
Oculi, J., Bua, B. and Tusiime, G.
56. Morphological Identification and Invitro Reaction of Pineapple Heart Rot Disease causal organisms to fungicides in central Uganda.
Ocwa, A., Bua, B. and Tusiime, G.
57. Grass Seed Value Chain Analysis in the Southern Kenya Rangelands of Makueni and Kajiado Counties.
Omollo, E., Wasonga O. V., Elhadi, Mohamed, Y. A. and Ngoyawu, M. W.
58. Performance of wild blackberry (*Rubus* sub-genus *Rubus* Watson) species in Kenya under conventional production.
Omondi, K.O., Gesimba, R.M. & Wolukau, J.N.
59. Determination of amylase activity in germinated maize flour on viscosity and nutrient density of complementary porridges
Yaredi, P., Nabubuya, A. and Msuya. J.
60. Can the cover crops, Jack bean (*Canavalia ensiformis*) and Velvet bean (*Mucuna pruriens*), be used to manage weeds?
Rugare, J.T., Pieterse, P.J. and Mabasa, S.
61. Genetics of soybean (*glycine max*) resistance to groundnut leaf miner.
Pembele, A. I.
62. Inheritance of resistance traits to the African stem borer in sorghum.
Muturi, P. W., Rubaihayo, P. and Mgonja, M.
63. Efficacy of Antagonistic Fungal Isolates in Management of Diseases in Snap Beans.
Fulano, M., Muthomi, J. W., Wagacha, J. M. and A. W. Mwang'ombe.
64. Bio inoculation and host resistance improve Faba bean yield in *Orobancherenata* infested soils in north Ethiopia.
Brhane, T., Kiros-Meles, A., Chala, A. and Asefa, D.
65. Distribution of maize lethal necrosis disease, its causal viruses and alternatives hosts.
Mariki, A., Oresanya, A., Munissi, S., Bekunda, M., Ssemakula, M.O. and Kumar, P. L.
66. Complementary Foods from Blends of Teff, Soybean and Orange-fleshed Sweet Potato in Ethiopia.
Tenagashaw, M., Kenji, G., Melaku, E., Huyskens-Keil, S. and Kinyuru, J.
67. Plant extracts and antagonistic fungi as alternatives to synthetic pesticides in management of fungal diseases of tomato.
Lengai¹, G. M. W., Muthomi, J. W., Wagacha, M. and. Narla, R. D.
68. Physico-chemical properties of Kenyan Lablab Purpureus bean varieties and *Phaseolus vulgaris*.
Sheila, M. K., Kenji, G. M. and Makokha, A. O.
69. Analysis of grain yield and yield components of cowpea (*Vigna unguiculata* L., Walp) under different agro-ecological zones in Uganda.
Agbahoungba, S., Karungi, J., Odong, T. L., Sadik, K. and Rubaihayo, P.
70. Evaluation of Mungbean (*Vigna Radiata* (L.) Wilczek) spacing for adaptability in smallholder cropping systems.
Ajo, F, Talwana, H. & Kagoda, F.
71. Evaluation of Rice Germplasm in Uganda Reveals Sources of Resistance to bacterial leaf streak disease in Uganda.
Kanaabi, M.
72. Combined leaf and pod resistance to common bacterial blight disease in Uganda.
Alladassi, B. M. E., Nkalubo, S.T., Mukankusi, C., Edema, R., Gibson, P. and Rubaihayo, P.R.
73. Sequence of development in the design and use of finger millet seeders: From broadcasting to mechanized row seeding to save weeding labor.
Muyingo. E., Tenywa, J. S. and Kiggundu, N.
74. Foliar nutrition regimes of combined Boron and Calcium minerals ameliorate photo-thermal stress tolerance in apple fruits.
Mwije, A., Hoffman, E.W. and Lötze, E.
75. Repellence activity of *Commiphora swynnertonii* stem bark exudate against *Rhipicephalus appendiculatus*.
Edwin, D., Chacha, M. and Erasto, P.

76. Prevalence of Citrus tristeza Virus disease in Ghana.
Kumi, F., Van der-Puije, G., Tettey, C. and Lamptey, J.N.L.
77. Maize Resistance to Stem Borers and Storage Pests: The Need of Update Genetics, and Functional Genomics Approaches in Future Research.
Badji, A., Otim, M., Machida, L., Odong, T.L., Kyamanywa, S. & Rubaihayo, P.
78. Identification of widely adapted mungbean varieties in different Agro-ecological environments in eastern Uganda.
Ogwang, S.
79. Social networks and influence of actor centrality positions in Conservation Agriculture knowledge systems in Laikipia County, Kenya.
Achora, J.C., Sseguya, H., Kyazze, F., Okello, D. & Mkomwa, S.
80. Factors influencing farm genetic diversity of sorghum in northern and eastern Uganda.
Businge, M., Apunyo, P.C., Isubikal, P., Odong, T.L. and Otim, M.
81. Economic efficiency of rice production in smallholder irrigation schemes in southern Malawi.
Magreta, R., Edriss, A.K., Mapemba, L. and Zingore, S.
82. Value addition of crop residue s using low-technology oyster mushroom to improve small-scale farm income.
Motlhalamme T., Khonga, E.B., Madibela, O.R., Balole, T.V. and Marumo, D.S.
83. Plant extracts and antagonistic fungi as alternatives to synthetic pesticides in management of fungal diseases of tomato.
Lengai, G. M. W., Muthomi, J. W., Wagacha, M., Narla, R. D.
84. Indigenous knowledge on the production of Bush Yam in Ghana.
Mbroh, I., Mensah, A. O., Yawson, D. O., Adu, M. O., Tetteh, J. P., and Fianu, E.A.
85. Development and Nutritional Composition of Jam and Juice Processed from Shea (*Vitellaria paradoxa*) Fruit Pulp from Uganda
Napio, R. Agea, J.G., Tumuhimbise, A.G.
86. Value-addition of cereal crop residues for improving the income, nutrition and performance of small-stock of small-scale farmers using low technology oyster mushroom production in Botswana
Khonga E.B, Balole, T.V, Madibela, O.R. and Marumo, D.S.

Sub-theme 6: Sustainable intensification within smallholder Livestock Value Chains

87. Overview of Feed Resources Condition and Feeding Practices among the Smallholder Dairy Farmers in Lushoto and Korogwe Districts, Tanzania.
Maleko, D., Msalya, G., Mwilawa, A., Pasape, L. and Mtei, K.
88. Growth promotive effects of neem and stinging nettle in indigenous chickens in Kenya.
Bwana, M. O, Nyaga P.N., Njagi, L.W., Mbuthia P.G., Bebora L.C., Mutinda, W.U. and Kitala, P.M.
89. Diagnosis and Surveillance of Peste des Petits Ruminants in Democratic Republic of Congo.
Bwihangane, B.A, Sviteck, N. and Gitao, G.C.
90. Analysis of indigenous chicken value in Uganda.
Lubandi, C., Lwasa, S., Kugonza, D.R, Babigumira, B., Nadiope, G. and Okot. M.W.
91. Prevalence, Pathology and Efficacy of Selected Treatment Regimes of Rabbit mange in Kenya.
Chebet, J., Waruiru, R., Gathumbi, P.K. and Munyua, M.
92. Evaluation of milk from Cattle fed on forage fertilized with specific mineral elements.
Chemutai, M, Kitilit, J.K., Otinga, A.N., Njogo, S., Njoroge, R., Pepela, M. and Okalebo, J.R.
93. Genetic diversity of Mycobacterium tuberculosis, drug resistance and Atypical Mycobacteria in Rwanda.
Uwimana, I.
94. Effects of probiotics feeding technology on weight gain of indigenous chicken in Kenya.
Tuitoek, J.K., and Onjoro, P.A.

95. Rabbit production practices among smallholder famers in Elgeyo Marakwet and Kakamega counties, Kenya.
Kale, P.C., Kitilit, J. K., Kebeney, S. J., Rop, N.K., Korir, M. K., Ochuodho, J. O. and Ngetich, W.
96. Overview of Animal Health and Reproductive Constraints under Smallholder Dairy Farming Condition in Tanga, Tanzania.
Kilyenyi, D., Shirima, G., Kusiluka, L. and Mdegela, R.
97. Awareness and Control Methods of Gastrointestinal Parasites of Sheep In Maseru, Lesotho. Mahlela
Molapo, M. A., Matebesi, S., Phoofolo, A.M., Phalatsi, W.M., and Moiloa, M.J.
98. Prevalence of varroa mite infestations among honey bee colonies in Uganda.
Namayanja, D., Akol, A.M. & Kugonza, D.R.
99. Effect of Low Tannin Sorghum Based Diets on Nutritional and Sensory Qualities of Broiler Meat and Layer Eggs.
Ochieng', B. A., Mburu J., Gicheha M., Kabuge L., Kinyuru J. and Owino, W. O.
100. Assessment of Manure Management and Utilization Practices for Enhanced Smallholder Dairy Productivity at Lushoto and Korogwe District, Tanzania.
Rukiko, P., Machunda, R., Pasape, L. and Mtei, K.
101. Assessment of indigenous chicken production in Western Kenya.
Tarus, J.K., Rachuonyo, H. A., Omega, J. A., Ochuodho, J.O., Gohole, L. S., Owiro, N.O., Ooko, L.A., Okello, E.O. & Munyasi, J.W.
102. Farmer Practices likely to Promote Spread and Persistence of Infectious Bursal Disease in Indigenous Village Chicken in Kenya.
Wahome, M.W., Njagi, L.W., Nyaga, P.N., Mbuthia, P.G., Bebora, L.C., Bwana, M.O Mutinda, W.U., Kitala, P.M.
103. The challenges encountered in diagnosing African swine fever in Uganda: are positives truly positive?
Mayega, J., Muwanika, V., Ogweng, P., Aliro, T., Stahl, K. and Masembe C.
104. Respiration rate dynamics of apple buds exposed to chemical rest breaking agents.
Inamahoro, M.
105. Nutritional evaluation and utilisation of quality protein maize in indigenous chickens.
Bidi, T., Ncube, S., Saidi, P. and Gasura, E.
106. Prevalence of Small Hive Beetle (Coleoptera: Nitidulidae) in selected Agroecological zones in Uganda.
Agaba, A., Akol, A.M. & Kugonza, D.R.
107. Raw cattle milk quality from smallholder dairy farms in central Uganda.
Flarian, M. M., Mwine, J., Nassuuna, M. M.
108. Acaricidal activity of Commiphora swynnertonii soap solution exudate against R. appendiculatus.
Temba, S., Erasto, P. and Chacha, M.
109. Nutritional value of spent oyster mushroom substrate and performance of small stock fed on spent mushroom substrates based diets.
Ntokome, K., Madibela, A.R., Khonga, Balole, E.B, and Marumo, D.S.
110. Assessment of Manure Management and Utilization Practices for Enhanced Smallholder Dairy Productivity at Lushoto and Korogwe District, Tanzania.
Rukiko, P, Machunda, R., Pasape, L and Mtei, K.
111. Breeding and Selection Criteria Practices of Indigenous Chickens in Eastern and Western Uganda.
Semahoro, F., Kugonza, D. R., Babigumira, B. M., Nadiope, G., Okot, M.W.
112. Farmer Practices likely to Promote Spread and Persistence of Infectious Bursal Disease in Indigenous Village Chicken in Kenya.
Wahome, M.W., Njagi, L.W., Nyaga, P.N., Mbuthia, P.G., Bebora, L.C., Bwana, M.O., Mutinda, W.U., Kitala, P.M.
113. Performance evaluation of indigenous chicken production and productivity in Uganda.
Semahoro, F., Kugonza, D. R., Babigumira, B., Nadiope, G., Okot, M.W.
114. Assessment of the performance of selected integrated crop-livestock systems in South – Kivu.
Safina, B. F., Moses T., Maajaliwa, M., Mushagalusa, N., Katcho, K.

Sub-theme 7: Marine science and blue economy – Fisheries and Aquaculture

115. Ecological impacts of *Cyprinus carpio* and *Clarias gariepinus*: a comparative literature review.
Chirwa, E.R., Kassam, D., Jere, W. & Mtethiwa, A.
116. Population Structure of the Cycad (*Encephalartos Whitlockii*) along River Mpanga, Western Uganda.
Ogwal, J. J.
117. Effect of Organic and Inorganic Fertilizers on Natural Food Composition and Performance of African Catfish (*Clarias gariepinus*) Fry Produced Under Artificial Propagation.
Moshia, S., Kang'ombe, J., Jere, W. and Madalla, N.
118. Fish parasites and their effects on fisheries production in relation to extreme flooding of lake Baringo, Kenya.
Sigei, W., Mutiso, J., Muia, D., Kavinda, L., Mwangi, B. M. and Gicheru, M.
119. Bivalves and other benthic macro-invertebrates in Murchison and Tende Bays of Lake Victoria.
Nantege, D., Kubiriza, K.G., Akoll, P., Masembe, C., Mwanja, T.M., Bwanika, G. and Odong, R.

Sub-theme 8: Reducing Postharvest Losses

120. Physico-chemical, microbiological and sensory qualities of probiotic yoghurt enriched with baobab pulp.
Aluko, A., Kinyuru, J., Chove, L. and Owino, W.
121. Can children get exposed to aflatoxin through cereal based weaning foods?
Modesti, B., Atukwase, A. and Laswai, H.
122. Effect of groundnut drying methods on drying rate, quality and aflatoxin contamination.
Chimbaza, M., Mwangwela, A. M. and Kanthunzi, W.
123. Development of a Commercial Solar Hot Air Dryer for Reduction of Postharvest Losses in a Rural Setting.
Ebangu, B., Dintwa, E. and Motsamai, O.
124. Pre and post-harvest management practices of Groundnut Production and their implication to Aflatoxin Management in Tigray, Ethiopia.
GebreEgzabher, H., Tadesse, T., Assefa, D., Tsegay, A., Meles, K., Abrha, B. and Tsehaye, Y.
125. Genetic resistance to drought and aflatoxin contamination groundnuts in central zone of Tigray, Ethiopia.
Girmay, A., Temam, H., Yemane, T., Alemtsehay, T., Dereje, A., Kiros M., Birhanu A.

Sub-theme 9: Agricultural Marketing Pathways, Product Uptake, Trade and Policy

126. The influence of market information systems on income earning opportunities of smallholder vegetable farmers in Babati district, Tanzania.
Aku, A., Mshenga, P. and Afari-sefa, V.
127. Sensory properties and consumer acceptability of nutrient dense porridge from locally available foods for infants in Tanzania.
Marcel, M., Mukisa, I., Turyashemerwa, F. and Mongi, R.
128. Consumers' Knowledge and Preferences on Organic Vegetables in Tanzania.
Sendewa, D. D., Elepu, G. and Temu, A.
129. Resource flow and marketing of indigenous chickens in Uganda.
Lubandi, C., Lwasa, S., Kugonza, D.R., Babigumira, B.M, Nadiope, G. Okot, M.W.
130. Actors in baobab trade and their linkages along the value chain in Malawi.
Amosi, N., Munthali, C. R. Y., Kasulo, V., Singini, W. & Luhanga, J.
131. Extent of commercialization of indigenous chicken production in Northern Uganda.
Aryemo, I. P., Kule, E., Kugonza, D.R., Okot, M.W. and Mugonola, B.

Sub-theme: 10: Strengthening Gender Mainstreaming to Enhance Agricultural Productivity

132. Gender Participation in the Local Chicken Value Chain in Northern Uganda.
Akite, I., Mugonola, B., Okot, M.W., Kugonza, D.R. and Kule, E.

Sub-theme 11: Addressing Risk Associated with Climate Change and Variability in Agricultural Systems

133. Projected impact of climate change on rice yield in two agro-ecological zones in South-Kivu, DRC.
Iragi, M., Amoding, K., Mwanjalolo, M., Masamba, W., Nkuba, B.
134. Empirical assessment of the relative performance of orthogonal contrast analysis for optimization.
Séro, B. N., Salako, V. K., Idohou, R., Assogbadjo, A. E. & Ièlè Kakai, R.
135. Response of winter and spring barley genotypes to biotic and abiotic stresses in Kenya.
Were, J. O., Ochuodho, J. O., Rop, N. K. and Gyawali, S.
136. Use of GGE Biplot method to evaluate stability of performance on new drought tolerant maize hybrids for Eastern Africa
Kosgei, T., Makumbi, D., Njoroge, K. and McDermott, B.
137. Response to cold stress at reproductive stage of exotic and adapted rice genotypes in Uganda.
Nyiramugisha, J., Lamo J., Oloka, B.M., Ongom, P., Gibson, P. and Edema, R.
138. Unpacking the Nexus between Climate Change and Food security in the East African Region: An Application of Autoregressive Modelling Approach.
Olila, D. O. and Wasonga, O. V.
139. Investigating Trends in Aridity using Mann-Kendall (MK) Statistic and its association with drought severity in Botswana.
Byakatonda, J., Parida, B.P., Kenabatho, P.K.



CONCEPT NOTES

Detailed schedule for parallel sessions

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Strengthening African University Leadership and Management Capacity for Economic Transformation in Africa

A convening of RUFORUM Vice Chancellors

Concept Note

Background & Introduction

African economies still lag behind the rest of the world in all sectors with growth rate of only 5% registered in the last decade. Even after fifteen years of growth, Africa's overall competitiveness has remained limited. The Global Competitiveness Index (GCI) identifies the majority of African countries as being among the least competitive in the world. Despite low growth rate and competitiveness, the Continent's natural and human resource endowments present a great potential for sustainable economic growth and development. To harness this enormous potential, economies need to shift towards technology and knowledge driven activities that will provide cutting edge solutions to the persistent challenges such as; food insecurity, climate change, poor infrastructure, unemployment, among others, to lay the foundations for sustained growth. The precursors to make this happen are all available in the continent in terms of development policy frameworks and political commitment to guide decision making and actions implementation. As outlined in Aspiration 1 of Africa's Agenda 2063, the African people and institutions reaffirm creating an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the global arena. The institutions have committed to building a society of well-educated citizens and igniting a skills revolution underpinned by science, technology and innovation for a knowledge based society. This will result into highly productive agriculture driven by science and technology for Africa's collective food security, high standard of living, and quality of life, healthy and climate resilient environment and ecosystems and economies and decent jobs for all Africans.

To achieve these aspirations, institutions of higher learning and research for development play a great role. Universities remain central to achieving the targets given their triple role of training the required skilled labor force, knowledge generation through research and innovations, and knowledge dissemination through outreach. The universities, therefore, need to strategically position themselves and anchor their core mandates to achieving the aspirations of Agenda 2063. The Science, Technology and Innovations Strategy for Africa (STISA 2024) maps out the path for the first 10 years of the Agenda 2063 and emphasizes the needed enhancement of technical and professional competencies, building a strong scientific culture, curbing brain drain and partnerships as prerequisite actions for the economic transformation. The technical competencies relate to quality of post graduate training especially doctoral training. University leadership and management should, therefore, become aware of the significance of the role of universities in achieving economic transformations in the continent. African universities, however, have internal and external leadership and management challenges that hinder their performance which need to be overcome to allow them effectively execute their role in economic transformation of the African continent. Some of these challenges include inadequate funding, particularly for research, increasing demand for higher education, with little parallel increase in infrastructure or human resources, limited autonomy and academic freedom.

	<p>Universities thus remain encumbered by weaknesses and inefficiencies often caused by 1) limited fore sight and lack of strategic planning for effective execution of the stipulated roles of different university units; 2) Poor management of existing human resources including attracting and retaining high quality faculty; 3) Low quality and relevance of research; 4) limited capacity for resource mobilization and financial management; 5) limited capacity to harmonize the republic of scholars and the university as a stakeholder organization; and 6) Poor external relations and partnership management. These result in weak universities, unable to deliver the type of products required to contribute meaningfully to agricultural and overall sustainable development. Targeted capacity building for university leadership and management is therefore required to enhance leadership and management competencies to steer universities to economic transformation of the African Continent through training proactive and skilled human resource, innovations and technology generation and dissemination of such technologies for adoption.</p>
Purpose of the Event	<p>The purpose of the two days convening is to bring together African Vice Chancellors to jointly develop practical approaches for addressing leadership and management challenges in African universities. The focus of the meeting is to create a shared understanding of the role of universities in economic transformation of society and how university leadership can strategically position and steer universities towards meeting this mandate. Necessary frameworks and mechanisms including personnel management and partnership management for effective delivery of university programmes will be discussed.</p>
Objectives of the side Event	<p>The specific objectives of the meeting are;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create an open interaction platform for Vice Chancellors to reflect on university leadership and management challenges 2. Develop working approaches for effective management delivery of university mandates 3. Develop a framework and mechanism for continuous exchange of experiences and lessons beyond RUFORUM.
Approach and Methodology	<p>A two day side event will be organized and held on 15th and 16th October 2016 as a pre-conference activity of the 5th African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference in Cape Town, South Africa from 17-21 October. The meeting will be attended by 60 Vice Chancellors of the RUFORUM Network. Guided discussions, small group discussions and plenary sessions will be deployed.</p>
Expected outputs	<p>The following will be the key outputs of the convening;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A synthesis report highlighting mechanisms for addressing leadership and management challenges at African universities 2. A framework for continuous exchange of lessons on leadership and management among RUFORUM Vice Chancellors.
Venue and Participants	<p>Venue: Century City Conference Centre, Cape Town, South Africa, Hall A Date & Time: 15th & 16th October 2016, from 0830</p>
Side Event Organizers and Contact	<p>The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) P.O. Box 16811 Wandegaya - Kampala, Uganda Tel: +256-417-713-300 (Office) Professor Adipala Ekwamu, Executive Secretary Email: e.adipala@ruforum.org</p>

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Training African Scholars to Improve Research for Development Communication using Social Media Platforms

Concept Note

Background & Introduction

A key criticism for knowledge generators has been the inability to effectively share research findings and outcomes with relevant audiences. While the dissemination of research findings through peer reviewed journals has been the standard means of communicating, this often results in effective sharing, but within a closed group of scientists. Advances in information communication and technology (ICT) and particularly the advent social media tools and the commonality of app enabled phones provides a means of supplementing currently existing platforms and tools. . At the same time, there are rapid changes in academic publishing, dissemination and science communication, as well as the need to track online engagement with scientific content, digital literacy, and this has become an essential skills set for the modern scientists.

In today's society social media presents a potential avenue for adapting to new quick and cost-effective ways of disseminating and tracking online engagement in contributing to debates in the realms of agriculture and other human needs. The outcomes from the world's first Twitter Scientific Poster conference (Randviir EP, Ilingworth SM, Baker MJ et al) revealed that Twitter helped to "increase the potential audience, facilitated ease of knowledge exchange, reduced travel requirements and the carbon footprint". The authors of the paper also alluded to the fact that "numerous researchers were reached across the world, participants managed to share their work not only with academics, but also with other interested parties such as writers, industries, friends and family, and even policy makers, researchers reached an audience potentially as large as 375,000 people and allowed for research to be shared more quickly and cheaply. The authors are optimistic that "the hybridisation of the academic conference and social media is something that could and should be seen more regularly in the future". They expect the use of social media to also "significantly expand scientific conferences due to the advantages identified above, and also to be utilised alongside conferences where physical participation occurs".

RUFORUM is a dynamic regional network with a membership of 60 African universities operating in 25 African countries and has over the years trained over 1300 Masters and 315 students who are currently engaged within research and development institutions to solve Africa's food security challenges. RUFORUM's training model involves activities to ground students and staff to real farmer problems. The focus is to respond to current training challenges, and to ensure impact through focused and response research. The RUFORUM Strategic Business Plan 2020 emphasises the renewed commitment by the RUFORUM Vice Chancellors for a demand-driven education and research portfolio of bringing African Universities closer to farmers. RUFORUM recognises the importance of strengthening communication of research results beyond the scientific community particularly towards policy makers, but also to other major stakeholders and the public at large. Communication has been underscore an essential skills for graduates, based on feedback from employers.

	<p>Accordingly, RUFORUM is organizing a social media training workshop as part of its capacity building activities to equip the postgraduate students with relevant soft skills that will enable them to tell their stories about research in a simple, cost effective, efficient and sustainable manner to a broad range of audiences using cost-effective tools. With the skills imparted, in future RUFORUM could consider to run some of the scientific conferences using social media platforms.</p>
Purpose of the Side Event	<p>The purpose of this side event is to empower African graduates with social media skills to enable them to actively participate in social media networks allowing them as scientists to disseminate their research findings quickly and effectively as well as raise their own profile or of their institutions.</p>
Objectives of the side Event	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To build capacity of the graduates in the use of Social Media for live reporting and communication. 2. Use Social Media to promote visibility of the research results for graduate students. 3. Engage graduates in experiential exercises to report on the RUFORUM Biennial Conference.
Approach and Methodology	<p>A team of experienced resource persons will conduct the training workshop. The training will be intensive, interactive and highly practical and all participants will have an opportunity to practice newly acquired skills of social media tools. Variety of tools will be used throughout the training which will include cameras, smartphones, laptops and tablets to ensure the trainees are equipped with the different skills on how use of the available technology. The focus platforms will be Blogs, Twitter, Facebook and YouTube.</p>
Outputs and outcomes of the training	<p>The expected outputs and outcomes include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At least over 200 graduate students trained on use of social media 2. Graduate students trained on relevant skills for communication and disseminating of research outputs 3. Increased visibility of research results presented at the RUFORUM Biennial, 2016 4. Opportunities for reporting on the live events of the Biennial Conference
Venue and Participants	<p>The side event will be convened on 15th October at Crystal Towers and on 16th October 2016 at the Century City Conference Centre (Hall D, CCCC). It will focus on students from the RUFORUM Network.</p>
Side Event Organizers and Contact	<p>The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) P.O Box 16811 Wandegaya - Kampala, Uganda Tel: +256-417-713-300 (Office) Contact: Miss Joan Apio (Program Officer - Communications, Publicity & Marketing) Email: j.apio@ruforum.org) & Mrs. Sylvia Mkandawire (Program Officer, Training) Email: schindime@ruforum.org)</p>

Side Event Programme Day One: Crystal Towers

SESSION:		
MAIN THEME		
Time	Sub Theme	Responsible
08.30 - 08.45	Welcoming remarks	Dr. Osiru Moses
09.00 - 09.15	Self-Introductions and registration	Joan Apio and All Reporters
09.15 - 09.45	Open Discussion – Identifying Skill strengths and expectations	Sylvia Mkandawire
09.45 - 10.00	Working Tea break	All Reporters
10.00 - 11.30	Presentation: Introduction to the Social Media and Concepts	Joan Apio
11.30 - 13.00	Practical Session: Creation of accounts and Navigation of RUFORUM Platforms	Sylvia, Joan and All Reporters
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch	All Reporters
14.30 - 15.00	Presentation: Brief about RUFORUM and the Biennial - Highlights, and Key products expected from the Group	Sylvia Mkandawire
15.00 - 16.00	Forming groups and allocation of review of poster materials for dissemination	Joan Apio and All Reporters
16.00 - 16.45	Practical Session: Tweeting and Photograph	Joan Apio and All Reporters
16.45 - 17.00	Tea and end of day one	All Reporters

Day Two: Hall D, Century City Conference Centre (CCCC)

SESSION:		
MAIN THEME		
Time	Sub Theme	Responsible
08.00 - 08.30	Recap of Day one – Each group to be represented by a volunteer (Group leader)	All Reporters
08.30 - 09.00	Presentation: Blogging and Facebooking	Sylvia Mkandawire
09.00 - 11:00	Practical Session: Blogging and Facebooking	Sylvia Mkandawire and All Reporters
12.00 - 13.00	Talk/Presentation: Importance of documenting Research – The Art of communication through Videography and Photography	Go Trolley
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch Break and end of day	All Reporters
14.00 - 15.00	Practical: Demonstration on use of Smart phones for documenting and sharing	Go Trolley
16.00 - 16.45	Group Work: Video capturing by students on their posters and presentations	Sylvia, Joan and All Reports
16.45 - 17.00	Assigning of events and Closure	Sylvia, Joan and All Reports

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Higher Agricultural Education Reform in Africa: Transformative Curriculum Development for Principals and Deans

Concept Note

Background & Introduction

Universities worldwide thrive best as innovation centres with dynamic feedback loops including both forward and backward mechanisms. These have facilitated universities' dominance as knowledge empires providing a range of solutions. Universities that have excelled in meeting societal needs and have been able to actively participate in national and regional level transformations have demonstrated the use of highly innovative curriculum as well as unique curriculum leadership. Several universities in Africa have faculties of agriculture with some having been training graduates over the last 50 years. Proliferation of private universities in Africa in the last 20 years has fundamentally increased the intake and number of graduates coming out of these universities. However, on a number of occasions, discourse is awash with criticism of poorly trained and ill-prepared graduates who are unable to transform the agricultural sector in Africa. A thorough reexamination of curricular and curriculum leadership in African universities to revisit the perspectives of tertiary agricultural education is of urgent interest to strategically respond to the century-old agricultural challenges that still riddle African farmers.

A resounding need to increase agricultural productivity, energy, and fiber to meet the rapidly rising African population is more apparent today than ever before. This is because by 2050 Africa's population will have surpassed 2 billion people. Slow progress in agriculture due to low technological and human capacity development are issues that can partly be addressed by innovative curricular and curriculum leadership within an aspiring Africa. Addressing the myriad challenges including, among others, climate change impacts, land degradation, increased pests and diseases, population growth, and poor investment policies calls for a dynamic and highly skilled workforce within agriculture and associated sectors that facilitates the development of agricultural commodity value chains as well as economy-wide sector growth. A paradigm shift is required in the way agricultural research, training, commercialization, and extension is practiced and managed across the continent. It should not follow a 'copy and paste' approach but instead a well-considered process that helps to actualize the African dream espoused in the African Union Agenda 2063 and other well-written regional and national policy and development plans.

Universities worldwide thrive best as innovation centres with dynamic feedback loops including both forward and backward mechanisms. These have facilitated universities' dominance as knowledge empires providing a range of solutions. Universities that have excelled in meeting societal needs and have been able to actively participate in national and regional level transformations have demonstrated the use of highly innovative curriculum as well as unique curriculum leadership. Several universities in Africa have faculties of agriculture with some having been training graduates over the last 50 years. Proliferation of private universities in Africa in the last 20 years has fundamentally increased the intake and number of graduates coming out of these universities. However, on a number of occasions, discourse is awash with criticism of poorly trained and ill-prepared graduates who are unable to transform the agricultural sector in Africa. A thorough reexamination of curricular and curriculum leadership in African universities to revisit the perspectives of tertiary agricultural education is of urgent interest to strategically respond to the century-old agricultural challenges that still riddle African farmers.

A resounding need to increase agricultural productivity, energy, and fiber to meet the rapidly rising African population is more apparent today than ever before. This is because by 2050 Africa's population will have surpassed 2 billion people. Slow progress in agriculture due to low technological and human capacity development are issues that can partly be addressed by innovative curricular and curriculum leadership within an aspiring Africa. Addressing the myriad challenges including, among others, climate change impacts, land degradation, increased pests and diseases, population growth, and poor investment policies calls for a dynamic and highly skilled workforce within agriculture and associated sectors that facilitates the development of agricultural commodity value chains as well as economy-wide sector growth. A paradigm shift is required in the way agricultural research, training, commercialization, and extension is practiced and managed across the continent. It should not follow a 'copy and paste' approach but instead a well-considered process that helps to actualize the African dream espoused in the African Union Agenda 2063 and other well-written regional and national policy and development plans. The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) provides the policy framework for investments and policy action for agriculture at the continental level. The Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa 2024 (STISA-2024) is a continental framework that outlines the mechanism for accelerating Africa's transition to an innovation-led, knowledge-based economy within the overall framework of the AU Agenda 2063 with Priority Area 1 dedicated to food security and poverty reduction. All these frameworks are well articulated but require skilled human resources to practically translate these thoughts into realities with African farmers. In addition, limited financial resources and weak governance systems in many African countries further constrain the implementation of the said frameworks. Addressing how capacity building is undertaken in Africa forms one of the key fundamental actions toward operationalizing the frameworks that seek to leapfrog Africa's agricultural sector. Universities are at centre of this transformation, and they themselves need to transform so as to better influence paradigm shifts in educational value chains as well as in various agricultural commodity value chains in Africa.

Institutional strengthening for effective human capacity development in Africa is usually a complex process because African universities have multiple stakeholders with divergent interests. Governments often see them as extensions of state apparatus to serve sitting regimes, their progress is dependent on good relations with government than strategic national interests and policy directives. Accordingly, reform in universities has thus tend to perpetuate 'islands of success' where a few faculties of interest have moved faster than all the others within the same university. The Faculties of Agriculture in many African universities are focus faculties due to their connection to agriculture that forms a backbone to many African economies. In this regard, they have tended to champion institutional transformation but are not yet at the level of comfort and position of influence to cause actual transformation in agriculture. The Principals and/or Deans of African Colleges/Faculties of Agriculture are the center of steering agricultural teaching, research and outreach at African universities and are therefore better placed to influence the transformation processes occurring within faculty and students. Repositioning this crop of leaders to take on new dimensions of curriculum development and leadership such as organization, implementation, supervision, and research in their respective institutions provides a win-win situation that can potentially deliver on the desired transformative tertiary agricultural education in Africa. Based on the above appreciation of issues, the proposed training seeks to undertake a one-day workshop for about 66 African Principals and Deans drawn from the 60 RUFORUM Network member universities in 25 African countries. The training is envisaged as a refresher workshop aimed at broadening and deepening curriculum leadership capacity of Principals and Deans.

Workshop Objectives	<p>This workshop is driven by the desire to support African universities to reform how tertiary agricultural education training, research and outreach is done. The specific objectives of the workshop include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reviewing curriculum implementation challenges in the agricultural sector in Africa 2. Developing strategies for effective agricultural curricula implementation in Africa 3. Developing a collaborative framework for feedback in curriculum implementation in the RUFORUM Network
Approach and Methodology	<p>The refresher training will be organized as a one day side event during the RUFORUM Biennial Conference in South Africa by RUFORUM with facilitation by the Agricultural Innovation in Africa Project at the Harvard Kennedy School. The Project is funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The event will also be supported by the ACP-EU EDULINK II ADECEA project. The refresher training will be attended by the RUFORUM Principals and Deans and will engage the participants to jointly develop and map out an implementation approach for effective curriculum leadership in Africa with demonstration using selected curricula in African Universities. Short background presentations on concepts of and experiences on curriculum leadership will be made with propositions of incorporating best practices into curriculum delivery at African Universities. The participants will then share experiences and develop strategies for effectively developing and implementing agricultural curricula for the sector's transformation.</p>
Expected Outputs	<p>Synthesis Report of the meeting outlining:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Documentation of current challenges in curriculum leadership in African Universities 2. Strategies for effective implementation of agricultural curricula in African Universities 3. A collaboration framework for lesson sharing in curriculum development and implementation
Venue and Participants	<p>Venue: Century City Conference Centre, Hall B Date & Time: Saturday 15th October 2016 from 0800-1730</p>
Side Event Organizers and Contact	<p>Agricultural Innovation in Africa Project at Harvard Kennedy School's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs Dr. Calestous Juma Email: calestous_juma@hks.harvard.edu</p> <p>And</p> <p>Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) Dr. Anthony Egeru Email: a.egeru@ruforum.org and Mr. Emmanuel Okalany Email: e.okalany@ruforum.org</p>

Side Event Programme

Time	Sub Theme	Responsible Person
8:00 - 8:30	Arrival and Registration	RUFORUM/Harvard
08:30 - 08:45	Welcome Remarks	Executive Secretary RUFORUM
08:45 - 09:00	Introductions and meeting objectives	Facilitator
09:00 - 10:00	Background presentation: Introduction to the New Harvest and its use in agriculture curriculum delivery in Africa	Prof. Calestous Juma
10:00 - 10:30	Coffee/Tea break	
10:30 - 11:30	Group discussion on incorporation of New Harvest into Agricultural curricula in African universities	Facilitator
11:30 - 12:30	Plenary presentations of group discussion reports on incorporation of "New Harvest" into African agricultural curricula	Facilitator
12:30 - 13:00	Orienting curricula for internationalization and innovative delivery approaches	Curriculum expert
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch Break	
14:00 - 14:20	Presentation of Case study curriculum for review	University of Nairobi
14:20 - 14:40	Presentation of experiences from ADECEA on curriculum development	Ghent University
14:40 - 15:30	Harmonization of curricula for internationalization (Group discussion)	Facilitator
15:30 - 16:30	Plenary feedback on curriculum quality and alignment for internationalization	Facilitator
16:30 - 16:45	Health Break and Working tea	
16:45 - 17:15	Synthesis presentation and discussion on development and implementation of agricultural curricula in African Universities	RUFORUM
17:15 - 17:30	Closing Remarks	Harvard University

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Processes and Practices for Multi-stakeholder Partnerships in Agricultural Research and Development

Concept Note

Background & Introduction

Agricultural Research for Development (AR4D) and Agricultural Research and Development (ARD) are emerging modes of agricultural research practice in the international development community. As indicated in Mbabu and Hall (2012) the definitions of AR4D and ARD in practice are rather fluid, but the key intent is the direct link of investments in research with tangible development outcomes. From this perspective, and as indicated by Rees et al. (2004) it is clear that AR4D and ARD are premised on systems perspectives on learning, innovation and change with fundamental implications for the way agricultural research is conducted and the way capacity along the value chain is built. ARD presents some compelling principles that resonate with much of recent thinking on innovation systems and contemporary notions of capacity building as a systemic phenomenon. These principles include the need for capacity building to be learning-based and participatory; to be results-driven and explicitly linking research to development; to take a systems view, where research is planned and executed as part of a wider development agenda; to involve partnerships with policy and practice stakeholders; and for it to be continuous process of learning, where capacity building responds to the evolving context of the agricultural sector. Based on these principles Mbabu and Hall (2012) raised the following questions:

1. What type of support program can enable the type of learning-based systemic capacity building of the sort suggested by AR4D?
2. Can such a program promote the attitudinal change needed to create an enabling environment for AR4D and ARD?
3. Will such a program be sufficient to ensure the sustainability of the capacity building process put in place and the emergence of ARD as a routine way of supporting agricultural innovation and development?

The Platform for Africa-Europe Partnerships in Agricultural Research for Development (PAEPARD) is designed to in part to respond to the above questions. It supports the development of sustainable African-European multi-stakeholder partnerships in agricultural innovation (www.paepard.org). It aims at building joint African-European multi-stakeholder partnerships in agricultural research for development and is implemented by several stakeholders .

PAEPARD's user-led process (ULP) has supported farmer organisations in defining research questions and themes based on their needs and priorities. The sub-regional farmer organisations and consortia have succeeded in securing funds to implement projects and they have expressed need to enhance capacity in project management and documentation as part of ensuring smooth implementation of their respective activities.

Aims and Objectives of the side Event

The proposed side-event is part of Work Package Capacities Work Plan for Year 7 under the PAEPARD implementation Plan. The overall aim of the side-event is to enable the members of ULP and consortia funded under CRF and ARF better manage projects and document the change process. The meeting will present opportunity for ULPs, CRF and ARF project teams to engage and network with other actors engaged in ARD and linked to academia in Africa

<p>Approach and Methodology</p>	<p>The training session is part of activities of Work Package capacities, Year 7. Work Plan and will be organised as a side event during the 5th RUFORUM Biennial which is Scheduled for 17 – 21st October 2016, in Cape Town, South Africa. The theme chosen for the 2016 Conference is “Linking Agricultural Universities with Civil Society, the Private Sector, Governments and other Stakeholders in support of Agricultural Development in Africa”. This is in line with PAEPARD mission and aspirations. It specifically relates to Activity 4.2.1 “To develop capacity of consortia and ULPs to effectively implement partnerships and projects”. The side event meeting will build on previous efforts and will address priorities emanating from Year 6 convening events. It will be a facilitator-led meeting and in order to allow for active engagement the facilitator(s) will use both group-work and plenary sessions and encourage use of visual aids including flip-charts and PowerPoint presentation to capture contributions and ideas from individuals and groups. In addition to the training session, the PAEPARD participants will participate in other week-long events of the RUFORUM Biennial including exhibitions. The conference also presents opportunity to package and publish results and experiences of project implementation and it is expected that all invited participants will prepare and submit Extended Abstracts using templates available from www.ruforum.org</p>
<p>Outputs/ outcomes</p>	<p>The side events will deliver the following outputs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Synthesis report from the proceedings of the side event; 2. Modules on project cycle management and documentation tailored for multi-stakeholder and innovation processes in ARD; 3. Enhanced networking between ULP and PAEPARD Consortia as well as with stakeholders in higher education particular university research teams implementing community-action research; 4. Enhanced capacity in project management and documentation of ULP, Competitive Research Fund (CRF) and Food and Business Applied Research Fund (ARF); and, 5. Visibility of PAEPARD and multi-stakeholder approaches promoted.
<p>Venue and Participants</p>	<p>Venue: Century City Conference Centre, Meeting Room 10.</p> <p>Date & Time: 0830-1700, Sunday 16th and Monday 17th and 830-1230 18th October 2016; a follow up session focusing on “Engaging Universities in farmer-led research” will be held Tuesday 18th October 2016, 08:00 – 1300 hrs.</p> <p>Work Package Capacities will engage participants and PAEPARD leadership to develop consensus on a detailed programme of activities to guide the 2-day training event.</p> <p>Participants will involve representatives from on-going Competitive Research Fund (CRF) and The Food & Business Applied Research Fund (ARF I & II) Projects and the ULPs. The PAEPARD Manager, Co-Manager and Grants Officer as well as Work package leaders will attend the meeting. Each Work Package will cover travel, accommodation and living expenses as well as other conference costs, including registration. Work Package Capacities (RUFORUM) and ICRA will use their respective PAEPARD budget allocation to cover conference related expenses.</p>
<p>Side Event Organizers and Contact</p>	<p>The organizers are the Work Package Leader (RUFORUM, represented by Dr. Paul Nampala, p.nampala@ruforum.org) and Co-leader (ICRA, represented by Dr. Julia Ekong, Julia.Ekong@icra-edu.org) of Work Package Capacities. They will work closely with Session Facilitator(s), PAEPARD Coordination and Management Team as well as leaders of the other Work Packages, particularly that of partnerships (led by PAFO) in the implementation of this activity.</p>

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Launch of developed MSc programmes, training of managers and students: ADECEA-EDULINK II project

Concept Note

Background & Introduction

Countries emerging from conflicts in Sub-Saharan Africa are generally characterized by low agricultural productivity and limited value addition and hence rampant poverty and food and nutrition insecurity. Jump-starting their economic recovery can be one of the greatest bolsters of communities' livelihood security, and can provide the engine for quick recovery. Under stable political environment well designed and implemented demand-driven training programmes is pre-requisite to the achievement of the target as it avails the labour market needed skills.

Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo (DR Congo) and Madagascar are three African countries emerging from conflicts which are in dire need of revitalizing their agricultural sector so as to ensure food and nutrition security, improve livelihoods of their people and ensure economic growth. It is in this perspective that the ADECEA (EU-ACP- EDULINK II) project was conceptualized. It focused on strengthening Agricultural training capacity of three selected Universities in these three post-conflict countries, and assist them develop quality post graduates programmes that is relevant to the needs of the market. These Universities are running the Licence (5 years undergraduate training), Master (3 years) and Doctorate (4-6 years) system which need to be aligned to 3-2-3 years LMD system to meet the international standards and facilitate integration of the trained professional at regional (Eastern, Central and Southern Africa) and international levels.

ADECEA also aimed at strengthening the partnership between institutions in the north and south, and facilitating staff networking and establishment of demand driven postgraduate training in three countries (DRC, Burundi and Madagascar). Five academic programmes instead of the three formerly envisaged were developed at University of Antananarivo (Madagascar), University of Burundi (Burundi) and Catholic University of Bukavu (DRC). Three were launched last year in Windhoek during the RUFORUM Annual General Meeting (AGM), and two will be launched in Cape town, in October 2016. The action also supported capacity building through upgrading the qualifications of some of the academic staff. A total of 4 staff from DR Congo have completed their training, and 4 from Burundi are finalising their MSc studies at Makerere University. An LMD strategy for the three post conflict countries was developed and will be launched during the Cape Town meeting.

Partnership in ADECEA-EDULINK II project

ADECEA consortium involve strategic partners to support demand articulation, linking the three targeted African universities in three post conflict countries (Universite Catholique de Bukavu, Universite du Burundi and Universite d'Antananarivo) to three well established European Universities (2 in France :Montpellier and Bordeaux; and one in Belgium: Universite de Gand), one in Africa (Makerere University), the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM), Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA) and Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA).

<p>Aims & Objectives of the side Event</p>	<p>ADECEA is organising a side event in Cape Town including the training of university managers and staff, training of students, holding the Steering Committee meeting and having an exhibition to promote visibility of the action. The objective of the training side event is to enhance managerial, pedagogic and administrative skills of top University managers and staff, enhance student skills on the use of social media and scientific publications. During these events three ready to implement MSc programmes from Burundi and D.R. Congo and the strategy for alignment to LMD system will be launched. The side event will also enable the consortium to consolidate the third year reports (financial and technical), organise a Steering Committee meeting, share experience in implementation of the ADECEA project with other stakeholders from the region and to brainstorm on the plan to scale up the initiative. In addition, ADECEA Project under the leadership of the coordinating University, Makerere University, together with AGRINATURA and RUFORUM will hold a META learning event on Higher Education initiatives in Africa and Europe on Thursday 20 October 2016 at the RUFORUM 2016 Biennial Conference venue.</p>
<p>Approach and Methodology</p>	<p>The side events will be organised as series of activities involving presentations by experts and panel discussants. The side events will be moderated by lead persons. At the end of the side events synthesis reports will be produced.</p>
<p>Expected outputs</p>	<p>The side events will generate the following outputs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A report on the launch of the three ready MSc programmes 2. Two reports on training of University managers and academic staff 3. A training report on skill enhancement training for graduate students 4. A report on META learning of Higher Education Initiatives in Africa 5. Final narrative and financial report 6. Report of the Steering Committee meeting 7. Monitoring and evaluation report 8. Published course modules and LMD strategy 9. Draft concept note to the 2017 ERASMUNDUS call and other funding opportunities 10. Nine staff and managers trained on Pedagogic skills and university administration 11. Ten students from the three targeted countries trained on socio-media, publication and data analysis
<p>Venue and Participants</p>	<p>Venue : Stay Easy and Century City Conference Centre Time & Date: Saturday 15th –Monday 17th October 2016 (Meeting Room Stay Easy) and 20th October 2016, Hall A, Century City Conference Centre Participants are the ADECEA –EDULINK II project members This event is co-funded by RUFORUM and ADECEA Project, and convened by Makerere University and RUFORUM</p>
<p>Side Event Organizers and Contact</p>	<p>This session will be facilitated jointly by Makerere University & RUFORUM Contact: Dr. Majaliwa Mwanjalolo E-mail: majaliwam@gmail.com; majaliwam@hotmail.com Tel: +256 78-2-428 260</p>

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

RUFORUM INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY PANEL (IAP) MEETING

Concept Note

Background & Introduction

Established in 2004, The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) is a Network of 60 African universities whose vision is 'a vibrant agricultural sector linked to African universities which produce high performing graduates and high-quality research responsive to the demands of Africa's farmers for innovations and able to generate sustainable livelihoods and national economic development'. The Network has several unique features for building Africa's innovation capacity and for engaging universities in development process and practice; i) It is owned and managed by Africans; ii) It derives its agenda largely from the continent wide policy frameworks especially of the African Union Agenda 2063 and the New Partnership for African Development's (NEPAD) Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP), The African Union Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA 2024), Africa Union Continental Education Strategy for Africa 2016-2025, the Sub regional Multi-Country Agricultural Productivity Programmes, The National Strategy Papers of the member States and Governments and constant review of global trends and foresight planning to ensure Africa has the required capacity for global competitiveness; and iii) it allows for joint action by the member universities and stakeholders in higher education and agricultural sectors.

RUFORUM's vibrancy emanates from its own character, which a) allows for ownership and direction of network activities by member universities, b) for identification of priorities from national level to inform regional thrusts, c) ensures broad consultation and consensus on regional level activities by members, and d) promotes sharing of resources, rather than competition, across the network for capacity building in agriculture.

The International Advisory Panel (IAP) a sub-committee of the RUFORUM Board, plays a key role in supporting the Board and the Secretariat to position the RUFORUM network to take advantage of the opportunities in, particularly, the external environment. Composed of eight individuals from both within and outside Africa, the IAP brings together high level individuals with a wealth of experience and that are strategically placed to support RUFORUM better understand the external environment. The IAP meets regularly through physical, as well as on-line meetings.

Purpose of the Side Event

The RUFORUM Strategic and Business Plan (2015-2020) which was launched in August, 2015 in Windhoek, Namibia highlights the key issues that require consideration and positioning by RUFORUM network in order to remain effective against a background of fast changing donor landscape. The International Advisory Panel (IAP), a Policy organ that guides the strategic orientation of the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Development in Agriculture (RUFORUM), will meet to review recent development in the agricultural and higher education sectors which RUFORUM needs to position itself to respond to so as to increase the relevance of RUFORUM and higher education for sustainable development in Africa.

<p>Objectives of the side Event</p>	<p>The specific objectives of the 16th October 2016 IAP meeting will be the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Receive updates from the Secretariat; 2. Consider key programmatic challenges facing the Secretariat programming and make recommendations for improvements; 3. Provide advice to the Board and Secretariat on how to best position the RUFORUM network in its international policy engagements in support of Higher Education in Africa. 4. Discuss and provide input into the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RUFORUM Capacity Building Strategy; • How RUFORUM can engage with TVET • Key input on possible meeting of committee of 10 Heads of State championing higher education in Africa. • Provide guidance on the meetings with key development partners slated for 19th October, 2016 5. Provide guidance on key issues for reflection by the Secretariat and the Board in line with the new Strategic Business Plan (2015-2020) especially Resource mobilisation
<p>Approach and Methodology</p>	<p>The side event will be convened on 16th October, 2016. The meeting will be guided by the above agenda, and the Chair for meeting deliberations. The closed meeting will discuss and provide recommendations to the Board and Secretariat in line with the above objectives.</p>
<p>Venue and Participants</p>	<p>Venue: Century City Conference Centre, Meeting Room 6, Cape Town, South Africa. Date & Time: Sunday 16th October 2016 from 0830-1300 The meeting will be attended by the IAP members and representative of the Secretariat</p>
<p>Side Event Organizers and Contact</p>	<p>The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) P.O Box 16811 Wandegaya - Kampala, Uganda Tel: +256-417-713-300 (Office) Contact: Prof. Adipala Ekwamu Executive Secretary, RUFORUM E-mail: a.adipala@ruforum.org</p>

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Promoting Gender Equality in African Universities to Increase Participation and Voice of Women in Higher Education, Research and Development A Convergence of Higher Education Networks at the Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference

Concept Note

Background & Introduction

According to UNWOMEN, the United Nation's entity for gender equality, empowering women to participate fully in economic life across all sectors is essential to build stronger economies, achieve internationally agreed goals for development and sustainability, and improve the quality of life for women, men, families and communities. Providing women and girls with equal access to education, health care, decent work, and representation in political and economic decision-making processes fuels sustainable economies and benefit societies and humanity at large.

Women and girls experience multiple and intersecting inequalities. Structural barriers in the economic, social, political and environmental spheres produce and reinforce these inequalities. Obstacles to women's economic and political empowerment, and violence against women and girls, are barriers to sustainable development and the achievement of human rights, gender equality, justice and peace. The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda agreed to by global leaders at the 70th General Assembly of the United Nations in September, 2015, reaffirms commitment to gender equality as not only a fundamental human right, but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world.

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM), as continental network of African Universities championing Agricultural higher education, research and development, makes recognition of and responds to the need for women's empowerment through its fifth organisational strategic goal of "Increased participation and voices of women in education/ training, research and production and marketing of knowledge". RUFORUM actively promotes gender equity and currently works with organisations championing gender equality at regional and continental levels such as African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD) and Forum for African Women Educationist (FAWE), to encourage more women enrolment in African Universities. Over 42% of RUFORUM MSc scholarships are awarded to women, a much higher than the 16% average enrolment in Masters' programs in Africa (Zseleczy et al., 2013). RUFORUM, AWARD and FAWE, also support women scientists to build social networks, gain confidence and access professional opportunities that have potential to propel them into domains previously considered only available to men.

Rationale and Purpose of the Side Event

Investing in women's and girls' education is one of the most effective ways to reduce poverty. Investment in higher education has high rates of return and the return is nearly two percentage points greater for females than for males (Dougherty, 2013). Education is an essential means of empowering women with the knowledge, skills and self-confidence necessary to fully participate in the development process.

Strategies to improve gender equality educational access must address not only direct costs of schooling but also take into consideration the wider social factors that impede women enrolment to higher education.

	<p>Higher education practitioners need to recognise that young women seeking to enrol for postgraduate training face double challenge of meeting societal demands of settling down in a family role with a modest career against a more rewarding higher education path which has stagnated the enrolment rate at 16%. The facilities at most of Africa's higher education institutions are constructed without minimum consideration of gender equality. The possibility of having young nursing mothers with high scientific and academic potential failing to complete or dropping out of the course due to lack of supporting space within the facilities is a reality. This is coupled with their caretaking roles within families and other responsibilities that limit women's mobility and hence their ability to benefit from opportunities and exposure that accrue out of these training exchanges.</p> <p>At the same time, the inclusion of women in research also leads to better quality research outputs. Drawing lessons from the private sector, it is apparent that increased gender diversity leads to a more robust bottom line. According to the latest research by McKinsey, companies in the top quartile for gender or racial and ethnic diversity are more likely to have financial returns above their national industry medians. Companies in the bottom quartile in these dimensions are statistically less likely to achieve above-average returns. (http://www.mckinsey.com/business-functions/organization/our-insights/why-diversity-matters) similarly, organizations with more diverse research teams benefit from a diversity of views. Indeed women bring unique skill sets, talents, perspectives, insights, personality traits, management, communication and cognitive styles to the table, field and laboratory, and their increased participation in science will lead to more productive teams, improved efficiency and better scientific outputs.</p>
Objectives of the side Event	<p>The objectives of the side event are;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To stimulate conversations on Gender Equity challenges in African universities, share experiences and propose remedial actions that are needed to promote education, training and professional development for women, 2. To appraise RUFORUM's approach to capacity building and how it empowers women both as students and as future leaders in the Agricultural innovation system.
Approach and Methodology	<p>A half day meeting will be organized at the Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference to be held at the Century City Conference Centre in Cape Town. The meeting will include a key note address on the status of Gender and Higher Education in Africa by the Executive Director of AWARD Dr. Wanjiru Kamau-Rutenberg. This will be followed by a plenary discussion and sharing of experiences and best practices among university Deans, Principals and Senior Academicians on what practical steps they are taking to address the gender equality deficits in African institutions of Higher Education. The primary target participants are Deans and Principals from the Member Universities and other actors promoting women education in Higher Education Institutions.</p> <p>The expected outputs of the side event are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A review of the gender sensitive initiatives in Universities that enhance the retention and timely completion of female students at MSc and PhD levels 2. Sharing lessons of best practices and their potential for scale 3. Understanding of the RUFORUM gender responsive capacity building
Venue and Date	<p>Venue: Century City Conference Centre, Cape Town, South Africa, Meeting Rooms 9 &10 Date: Sunday, 16th October 2016 Time: 0830 -1300</p>

Side Event Organizers and Contact

Dr. Wanjiru Kamau-Rutenberg (AWARD) Email: w.kamauR@cgiar.org
and Mr. Charles Owuor (RUFORUM) Email: c.owuor@ruforum.org

Side Event Programme

Day One

Time		
MAIN THEME	Gender and Women empowerment in Higher Education, Research and Development	
0800 - 0845	Registration of participants	Mr. Moses Waswa (RUFORUM)
0845 - 0900	Welcome and Opening Remarks	Dr Moses Osiru
0900 - 0915	Side event Context and Objective	AWARD
0915 - 0930	Key note Address the AWARD Executive Director, Dr. Wanjiru Kamau-Rutenberg	AWARD
0930 - 1000	Plenary discussion	
1000 - 1030	Tea Break	
1030 - 1230	<u>Group work and feed back to the plenary</u> Working groups with Max of 10 people looking at different but related aspects in terms of <ol style="list-style-type: none"> what are the existing systems, mechanisms and policies that enhance gender equity in African Higher Education Institutions what is the reality check of gender equality in African Higher Education Institutions and what should be done differently 	AWARD and RUFORUM
1230 - 1245	Key actions and recommendations	AWARD
1230 - 1300	Closing Remarks	Prof. Adipala Ekwamu, RUFORUM Secretariat

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Agenda for the 9th RUFORUM Technical Committee Meeting to be held during RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

DATES: 16th and 17th October, 2016
Century City Conference Center, Cape Town, South Africa

Concept Note

<p>Background & Introduction</p>	<p>The Technical Committee is a key governance and management organ of the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM). The RUFORUM Technical Committee is mandated by the RUFORUM Constitution to meet at least twice a year to review programmatic operations, Secretariat undertakings as well as engagements at the Network level. The 8th RUFORUM TC Meeting was held on 26th and 27th August 2015 at the 11th Annual General Meeting at Safari Court Hotel and Conferencing Centre, Windhoek. The meeting reviewed programmatic engagement at Secretariat and wider network level and generated action points for follow up as highlighted in the Minutes. As per the RUFORUM constitution, the Technical Committee is scheduled to meet a twice a year. For this 2016/17 Activity Year, the first meeting of the TC (9th RUFORUM TC Meeting) is scheduled as a preconference side event prior to the fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016.</p>
<p>Purpose of the Side Event</p>	<p>The 9th RUFORUM TC Meeting will be conducted as a business meeting and will therefore receive and review progress of previous accomplishments and feedback on proposed actions. The Meeting will also consider and provide strategic guidance to key elements of the RUFORUM 2016/2017 Work Plan.</p>
<p>Objectives of the side Event</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To review progress with programmatic operations and provide technical backstopping as appropriate; 2. To reflect on key activities proposed for the Activity Year 2015 – 2016 and provide input that will facilitate securing smooth implementation.
<p>Approach and Methodology</p>	<p>The 9th RUFORUM TC Meeting will be conducted as a formal meeting and will be presided by the Chairperson (Prof. Kay Muir Leresche). The RUFORUM Secretariat will facilitate smooth implementation of the meeting by providing all necessary reference documents. The Secretariat will also capture the Minutes of the Meeting. The Meeting is will be conducted in two separate sessions as indicated in t section of date and venue below.</p>
<p>Expected Outputs</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhanced interaction among TC members 2. TC members updated on programmatic engagements at the Secretariat and entire network 3. Enhanced engagement of TC in technical over sight, advocacy and resource mobilization to support RUFORUM interventions 4. Draft Minutes of the 9th TC Meeting
<p>Date and Venue</p>	<p>The 9th TC Meeting will be held in 2 sessions as outlined below: First session: 0830-1300 hrs, 16th October 2016, Century City Conference Centre Meeting Room 7 Second session: 0830-1200 hrs, 17th October 2016, Stellenbosch University, STIAS</p>

Side Event Organizers and Contact

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM)
 P.O Box 16811 Wandegaya - Kampala, Uganda
 Tel: +256-417-713-300 (Office)
 Contact: Dr. Paul Nampala
 Grants Manager, RUFORUM
 E-mail: p.nampala@ruforum.org

Agenda

Time	Agenda Item
16th October, 2016	
08:30 - 1030	Presentation, Amendment & Adoption of the Agenda
	Communication from Chair
	Presentation, Review and adoption of Minutes of the 8 th TC Meeting
	Matters Arising from Minutes of the 8 th TC Meeting
10:30	Health Break
11:00 - 12:30	Updates on programmatic design, implementation and plans of RUFORUM Secretariat and wider network interventions
12:30 - 1300	Key highlights and decision point
13:00	LUNCH
17th October, 2016	
0830 - 1030	Presentation by Kelly, Crowd Funding and Italian Team
10:30 - 11:00	Health Break
11:00 - 1130	Discussion
11:30 - 12:00	Closing Remarks
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Executive Secretary 2. TC Chair
12:00	LUNCH

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Grow Further Club Engagement meetings at RUFORUM 2016 Biennial

Concept Note

Background & Introduction

Agriculture remains a corner stone to securing the livelihoods of many poor rural dwellers globally. However, over the last two decades, investment in agriculture at both national and international levels has been declining in per capita relateness compared to the 1980s. These declines in agricultural investment, have potential to offset and further limit progress towards global food security. Reversing these trends, requires concerted action from both the governments and private sector as well as from individuals at various hierarchies of the global commons. Investment in agriculture in the developed countries has shown commendable returns on investment with expanded benefits and employment opportunities in the various agricultural value chains including focused technological advancements. Consequently, the industrialised countries have over the years been able to benefit from agricultural research and development (R&D) investments in both the public and private sectors, but developing countries have by and large relied on public sector support from national programs and from international organizations to advance investments in agriculture at various points. It has therefore become critical that developing countries invest significantly in agricultural research and development with focused input from indigenous and international private sectors and individuals that have appreciation for the need for strategic investment in agriculture and agricultural research and development.

One entry point to agricultural and development is investment in higher agricultural education capacity building. However, higher agricultural education capacity building and research partnerships are diverse with increasing complexities in the recent past. This is particularly so because early post-independence history, higher education was barely developed in the global south. As such, higher education training largely remained controlled by the former colonial masters, requiring enrolment in Europe and the United States and/or Canada. This trend has since changed, with increased training now happening at the global south using locally developed capacity. However, challenges remain abound among others; (i) rapid enrolment in primary and secondary levels have produced an immense increase in enrolment to university, (ii) limited national governments financing of higher education, (iii) strained human resources in terms of number and technical capacity, (iv) increased development assistance in education but restrictive lines of spending thereby limiting the local level needs priority setting.

RUFORUM has championed, regional, national and local engagements with 60 universities in Africa that have been able to undertake local, national to regional level research of importance and have been able to reach to over one million smallholder farmers over the last 10 years. This process has demonstrated the power of transforming universities to cause change at local level. Like other organisations in the global south, depending on donor financing to deliver its programmes, RUFORUM is faced with articulation of relevance, demonstration of impact, continued mobilisation of resources, diplomatic manoeuvres to engage policy and decision makers to set priorities that are relevant to smallholder farmers and further entrenching innovative higher education training programmes and processes. The Grow Further Club, has expressed interest to consult with RUFORUM and key individuals attending the Biennial conference.

	The Grow Further Club, is a proposed Foundation that will be established in the United States of America (USA). It envisions an open platform for middle-class Americans of diverse professions to learn about, engage with, and support agricultural R&D in developing countries for the benefit of poor farmers and the environment. In order to articulate how the two organisations can beneficially work together, a series of meetings have been organised at the 5th Biennial Conference in Cape Town, South Africa.
Purpose of the Side Event	Undertake consultation with RUFORUM and key individuals in agricultural research and development space at the Biennial Conference.
Approach and Methodology	Open discussion
Expected outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status of agricultural research and development investment in Africa • Priority investment areas of interest in the present, mid-term and long-term • Synergy opportunities for resource mobilisation to invest in agriculture in Africa • Strategies for engaging individuals and foundations to further increase their investment in Agriculture in Africa and in the global south.
Contact person	Anthony Egeru (a.egeru@ruforum.org), Regional Coordinator, MCF@RUFORUM

Meeting schedules

Day/Date and time	Time	Meeting	Venue
Sunday 16 th Oct. 2016	11:00-12:00	International Advisory Panel	CCCC, Room 6
Monday 17 th Oct. 2016	9:30-12:00	Technical Committee and invited guests meeting <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Peter Kelly 2. Prof. Kaunda 3. Prof. Mwamgombe 4. Prof. Daniel Sherrard 5. Prof. Kyamanywa 6. Dr. Egeru 7. Mr. Okalany 8. Prof. Molteni 	Stellenbosch/STIAS
Wednesday 19 th Oct. 2016	19:30-20:30	Dr. Patel, Dr. Lynam and (Dinner meeting)	CCCC
Thursday 20 th October, 2016	11:30-13:00	Presentation during the META learning session	Hall A

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

South African Agriculture and Life Sciences Deans Association (SAALSDA) Meeting

Concept Note

<p>Background</p>	<p>The formalization of SAALSDA in 2014 positions South Africa to respond to critical developments and proactively advocate in the dynamic environment of agricultural development continentally and globally. These dynamics are contextualized by inter alia the development of the African Union Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA 2024), and the Science Agenda for African Agriculture (SA3). The Academy of Science of South Africa's (ASSAf) commissioned a consensus study to revitalize agricultural education and training (AET) in South Africa. This study has now been completed and need to be shared with SAALSDA members. Prof Albert Modi, Dean and Head of School for Agricultural, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of KwaZulu-Natal, has been elected as Chairperson. Members include Deans or Heads of the ten faculties of agriculture and/or life sciences, as well as the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences at the University of Pretoria.</p> <p>Associations like SAALSDA, along with other regional associations, are members of the Global Confederation of Higher Education Associations for Agricultural and Life Science (GCHERA), encouraging mutual understanding and global cooperation in supporting innovation and providing leadership in education, research and outreach in agricultural and life sciences. Current members of GCHERA include associations and networks from Africa, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Central America, Central Asia, China, Europe, India, Mexico, the Middle East, Russian speaking countries, and the United States.</p>
<p>Purpose of the Side Event</p>	<p>Biannual meeting of SAALSDA, and presentation/consultation of the conclusions of the Consensus Study on the Revitalisation of Agricultural Education and Training (AET) in South Africa, commissioned by the Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf).</p>
<p>Objectives of the side Event</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliberations on the business of SAALSDA, and election of a new Chairperson • Consultation on the recommendations of the ASSAf AET study with members of SAALSDA
<p>Approach and Methodology</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14:00-15:30: Closed business meeting – members of SAALSDA • 15:30-17:30: Open meeting, incl. other Heads of Departments and Deputy Deans, to share the conclusions of the ASSAf AET study
<p>Venue and Participants</p>	<p>Venue: Meeting Room 11, Century City Conference Centre, Cape Town, South Africa Date: Sunday 16 October, 2016 Time: 1400-1730</p>
<p>Side Event Organizers and Contact</p>	<p>National Research Foundation (NRF) Dr Aldo Stroebele aldo.stroebele@nrf.ac.za</p>

Side Event Programme

Day One

SESSION: 16 October 2016 Venue: Room 11, Century City Conference Centre, Cape Town, South Africa		
MAIN THEME		
Time	Sub Theme	Responsible
14:00-15:30	Closed business meeting – members of SAALSDA	Aldo Stroebel
15:30-17:30	Open meeting, incl. other Heads of Departments and Deputy Deans, to present and discuss the recommendations of the ASSAf AET study	Aldo Stroebel

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Fifteenth RUFORUM Board Meeting

Concept Note

Background	<p>The RUFORUM Board of Trustees (the Board) and Annual General Meeting (AGM) constitute the supreme organs of the RUFORUM Network. The Board is comprised of Vice-Chancellors of Member Universities and other stakeholders who represent the non-University Board members. The Board meets once every year to conduct business and Board Members facilitate their participation. The 15th Meeting of the Board is scheduled for 17th October 2016 at Stellenbosch University, South Africa. The meeting will be preceded by two meetings of the Board Executive Committee (BEC) since the last Board meeting held on 28th August, 2015 in Windhoek, Namibia. The BEC meets regularly, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, to provide close oversight of the Secretariat operations, and take decisions on behalf of the Board as needed.</p>
Purpose and objectives	<p>The 15th Board Meeting will conduct formal business and will among others, receive and deliberate on the report of the Board Executive Committee. The meeting will deliberate and make recommendations to the Annual General meeting, due to be held on 18th October 2016, on the following key issues, among others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider minutes and actions from the 14th RUFORUM Board meeting • Receive report from the Board Executive Committee • Receive Report from the Finance and Administration Committee • Review and make recommendations to the AGM on Report of the External Audit; • Review draft budget for the Activity Year July 2016 – June 2017; • Receive an update on RUFORUM international policy engagements in support of Higher Education in Africa • Consider requests for membership from universities that wish to be part of the RUFORUM network;
Approach and Methodology	<p>The Board Meeting will be presided over by the Board Chairperson and will be organised by RUFORUM Secretariat as a Session prior to the Annual General Meeting to be held in Cape Town, South Africa on 18th October, 2016.</p>

Venue and Participants	Venue: Stellenbosch University, South Africa. Date & Time: Monday 17th October 2016 from 0830-1330 Participants: The meeting will be attended by the Board Members and selected observers.
Side Event Organizers and Contact	The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) P.O Box 16811 Wandegaya - Kampala, Uganda Tel: +256-417-713-300 (Office) Contact: Prof. Adipala Ekwamu Executive Secretary, RUFORUM and Secretary to the Board E-mail: e.adipala@ruforum.org

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

13th RUFORUM Principals and Deans Meeting

Concept Note

Background	<p>The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) is an African-owned, member-based, and dynamic network of 60 universities in 25 African countries. It was created in 2004 by the then 10 African Vice Chancellors 'to strengthen the capacities of Universities to foster innovations responsive to demands of small-holder farmers through the training of high quality researchers, the output of impact oriented research, and the maintenance of collaborative working relations among researchers, farmers and national agricultural research institutions'. The member universities recognise the need to collaborate rather than compete as a means of strengthening graduate training in Africa and enhancing relevance of African Universities to development needs in the continent.</p> <p>The current RUFORUM's Strategic Business Plan 2015-2020 recognizes the importance of all three traditional mandates of the universities – namely training, research, and outreach and calls for strategic interventions in each of those three levels of Tertiary Agricultural Higher Education to ensure that RUFORUM remains relevant to its various customers and stakeholders amidst a fast changing socio-economic environment; especially with renewed interest of the African Union recognising higher education as critical for achieving its Africa Vision 2063.</p> <p>Principals and Deans play a key role in managing academic quality at universities. As such, they are central to the implementation of RUFORUM activities and towards the achievement of the outcomes and ultimate goals as stipulated in the RUFORUM Theory of Change (ToC). RUFORUM Strategic Business Plan (2015-2020) highlights the following outputs that need to be achieved by RUFORUM within the ToC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RUFORUM member faculties produce more relevant and user oriented research; • RUFORUM member faculties produce proactive and skilled graduates; • Universities institutionalize enabling policies, principles and practices; • Universities mainstream new approaches in pedagogy and academic management.
Purpose of the Side Event	<p>The meeting brings together Principals and Deans from the RUFORUM member universities to discuss issues related to the RUFORUM overall objectives. The meeting this year will focus specifically on the issues of low graduation rate coupled with low publication rate and increasing cases of plagiarism among universities. There will also be focus on:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring opportunities for new graduate programmes; • Strengthening academic delivery through use of ICTs; and • Debriefing on opportunities for collaboration under the African Higher Education Centres of Excellence (ACE) <p>Moreover, there will be opportunities to learn about existing resource mobilisation avenues to strengthen research and training at African universities. As such, the meeting will focus on harnessing existing and upcoming calls for proposals that universities may apply to. In addition, the Deans and Principals will meet in a closed meeting to deliberate on RUFORUM Network issues.</p>
Objectives of the side Event	<p>The specific objectives of the side event are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Convene and hold the RUFORUM Principals and Deans Committee Business Meeting; 2. Discuss opportunities for strengthening delivery of academic programmes; 3. Debriefing on the ACE training opportunities 4. Discuss ways to improve low graduation rate and low publication rate, and how to decrease cases of plagiarism in universities; 5. Explore funding opportunities for Higher Education in Africa.
Approach and Methodology	<p>The meeting will involve presentations, group work and panel discussions.</p>
Venue and Participants	<p>The meeting will be attended by Principals, Deans and senior members of staff of African universities, key partners and stakeholders. The Deans and Principals Business meeting will be attend exclusively by Deans and Principals. Venue: Century City Conference Centre (CCCC), Hall B & Meeting Room 9 & 10 Date & Time: 15th & 16th October 2016 from 0830-1645</p>
Side Event Organizers and Contact	<p>The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) P.O Box 16811 Wandegaya - Kampala, Uganda Tel: +256-417-713-300 (Office) Contact: Dr Solange Uwituze Program Manager Traing and Quality Assurance E-mail: s.uwituze@ruforum.org</p>

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Academic visit by RUFORUM graduate students to the Faculty of AgriSciences, Stellenbosch University to promote scholarly interaction and research orientation

Concept Note

<p>Background & Introduction</p>	<p>RUFORUM is a dynamic regional network with a membership of 60 African universities operating in 25 African countries has over the years trained over 1300 Masters and 315 students who are currently engaged within research and development institutions to solve Africa's food security challenges. RUFORUM's training model focus on current challenges and to ensure impact through focused and responsive research. The RUFORUM Strategic Business Plan 2020 emphasises the commitment to facilitate collaborative networks and the strengthening of communication between member institutions in relation to education and research. The inclusion of graduates in these processes and initiative remains a core objective.</p> <p>The 2016 RUFORUM Biennial Conference to be held in Cape Town from 17-21 October, coinciding with the African Higher Education Week, provides an excellent opportunity for academic engagement between students participating in the Conference and post graduate students from the AgriSciences Faculty at Stellenbosch University, who is co-hosting the event.</p> <p>The Faculty of AgriSciences is nearing its centenary in 2018 and is rated as a leading research institution in agriculture and forestry in Africa and abroad. Faculty accommodates approximately 1 500 undergraduate and 500 postgraduate students over a range research and education programmes including the sectors Animal Science, Agronomy, Forestry, Horticulture and Viticulture & Oenology, together with the fields of Agriculture Economics, Conservation Ecology & Entomology, Food Science, Genetics & Biotechnology, Plant Pathology & protection and Soil & Water Science. The Faculty further hosts three institutes in the form of Plant Biotechnology, Wine Biotechnology and Wine & Grape Sciences.</p> <p>Similarly, students participating in the RUFORUM Conference, comes from a range of countries, institutions and fields of study representative of the African higher education sector. This provide a unique opportunity for engagement, orientation, interaction and exchange of ideas between the future educators and researchers in Africa within the domain of Agriculture and related fields. The students will be exposed to complex issues and challenges, alternative approaches and viewpoint, innovative ideas and creative thinking.</p>
<p>Purpose of the Side Event</p>	<p>The purpose of this side event is to expose graduate students from a diverse background to the AgriSciences Faculty at Stellenbosch University to promote student mobility and future collaboration and networking amongst the next generation of agricultural researchers in Africa.</p>
<p>Objectives of the side Event</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To introduce the visiting graduate students to the educational and research programs of the Faculty of AgriSciences at Stellenbosch University. 2. To provide an opportunity for graduate students to share information on their research activities. 3. To provide a platform for in depth conversation and debate amongst the graduate students on matters related to the development of agriculture in Africa through education and research.

Approach and Methodology	<p>The event will consist of a visit to the Stellenbosch University campus where the program of activities will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General orientation on the Faculty of AgriSciences • Breaking up into nine research themes of interest, followed by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A series of short presentations and discussions by RUFORUM and Stellenbosch students on research related topics • An interactive thematic discussion forum • A visit of research facilities and projects • A campus orientation tour with recreational components
Outputs and outcomes of the training	<p>The expected outputs and outcomes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 200 graduate students introduced to the Agricultural research and educational programmes, facilities and focus areas of Stellenbosch University • Graduate students provided an opportunity to present and discuss their research work in a peer group context • Graduate students provided an opportunity to discuss and debate topics related to the development of agriculture in Africa through education and research. • Graduate students provided an opportunity to form early career networks and collaboration.
Venue and Participants	<p>The side event will take place at the Faculty of AgriSciences on the main campus of Stellenbosch University. It will focus on students from the RUFORUM Network. Date & Time: Monday 17th October, 2016, 0830-1730hrs</p>
Side Event Organizers and Contact	<p>Stellenbosch University Private Bag X1, Matieland, 7602 Stellenbosch, South Africa Contact: Prof. Danie Brink, dean, Faculty of AgriSciences Email: db@sun.ac.za</p>

Side Event Programme - Day One

SESSION:		
MAIN THEME		
Time	Sub Theme	Responsible
08.00 - 08.45	Welcoming remarks	Prof. Danie Brink
09.00 - 09.30	Introduction to the Faculty of AgriSciences, Stellenbosch University	Prof. Danie Brink
09.30 - 09.45	Divide into thematic groups and depart according	Prof Pieter Gouws
09:45 - 10.00	<p>Arrival at the respective research environments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agriculture Economics 2. Animal production 3. Crop production 4. Crop protection 5. Conservation and Resource management 6. Food Science 7. Forestry and Wood Science 8. Genetics and Biotechnology 9. Horticulture, 	Hosting departments
10.00 - 11.30	Workshop: - Short presentations on research topics	Hosting departments
11.30 - 13.00	Interactive thematic discussion forum	Hosting departments
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch	
14.00 - 15.30	Campus orientation tour: Library, Business incubator, Student center, etc.	Carin Bruce
15.30 - 16.00	Depart for Cape Town	Prof. Danie Brink

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Seventh Principal Investigators Orientation Meeting (7th PIOM) Engaging Principal Investigators of RUFORUM Supported Research Grants for efficient Implementation

DATE: 17th October, 2016

Century City Conference Center, Cape Town, South Africa

Concept Note

Background & Introduction

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) is a network of 60 universities in 25 African countries. RUFORUM was formed by visionary Vice Chancellors in 2004 as a change agent organization that will champion the integration of African universities in to the development process. RUFORUM focuses at ensuring that universities play an important role in contributing to the well-being of small-scale farmers and support national and regional development through the output of high quality research and innovative researchers and change agents. Over the years, RUFORUM has further supported the training and capacity development of university faculty as well as strengthened the operational effectiveness and promoted greater sharing and lesson learning among member universities and with other African and international institutions.

The above efforts are in accordance with RUFORUM's vision for 'a vibrant agricultural sector linked to African universities that can produce high-performing graduates and high-quality research, responsive to the demands of Africa's farmers for innovations, and able to generate sustainable livelihoods and national economic development'. In achieving its vision RUFORUM is guided by a well elaborate and articulate mission, that focuses on strengthening the capacities of Universities to foster innovations responsive to the demands of smallholder farmers and value chains through the training of high quality researchers, the output of impact-oriented research, and the maintenance of collaborative working relations among researchers, farmers, market actors, national agricultural research and advocacy institutions, and governments. In actualizing this mission, RUFORUM implements a range of activities and at the core of these is the Competitive Grants System (CGS). The CGS is directed at the increased contribution of graduates from RUFORUM member universities with an objective of producing high-quality innovative and entrepreneurial graduates and dynamic universities that are strong actors in national innovation systems and that champion the production of quality graduates, research outputs and policy information that underpin poverty alleviation and economic growth.

There are five different granting portfolios that award grants competitively through the RUFORUM CGS including: (i) Graduate Research Grants (GRG) for projects that train at least 2 MSc. students; (ii) Community Action Research Programme (CARP) to establish a platform to link universities with communities and other stakeholders in action research and involve 1 PhD and 2 MSc. students; (iii) Field Attachment Programme Awards (FAPA) to intern with prospective employers and work with the clients of their research on uptake, after submitting their theses; (iv) Doctoral Grants that provide a range of scholarships and grants to PhD students; and (v) Nurturing Grants also known as Institutional Strengthening Grants that provide targeted support to address gaps and emerging opportunities. It is through these grants that RUFORUM contributes to improving the quality and relevance of its research and students, to university outreach and to its potential as an impartial national and regional platform for all stakeholders to engage in value chains.

	<p>Currently there are 6 CARP projects, 55 GRGs running, 168 FAPAs and 47 Nurturing Grants. Of these PIs to the 3 CARPS and the 55 GRGs are scheduled to attend the biennial. This will present an opportunity to engage on key issues including establishment of thematic working groups and timely project completion.</p> <p>Why the need for thematic groups and timely project completion</p> <p>The overall theme under which the ongoing grant were awarded is focused on “Innovation for sustainable crop-livestock systems within value chains that improve smallholder incomes.” This attracted teams that are working along similar commodities as well as similar aspects along different value chains and there is need to initiate efforts that will secure continued collaboration between and among principal investigators as well as the entire research team.</p> <p>Timely project completion is central to quality and excellence. It is core to grant making, resource mobilisation and assures funders of the excellence of processes as well as builds institutional confidence. It is the single most valuable bargain an organisation can provide to its funders at all times and promotes trust. Timely spending, accountability and compliance to grant provisions is one of the criteria that determines future funding levels for any organisation. RUFORUM mobilizes resources on behalf of network member universities and disburses it through a competitive process. As such, there is a double spine process of financial transactions on all the project grants within RUFORUM; universities and principal investigators (PIs) account to RUFORUM and RUFORUM accounts to the donors/funders. In all cases, students and Principal Investigators (PIs) become central to RUFORUM credibility and success. Failure on the part of the PIs and students to deliver on the targets agreed upon in the grant award letter implies a failure on the part of RUFORUM to deliver on its commitments to the funders.</p>
<p>Objectives of the side Event</p>	<p>The overall objective of this side event is to strengthen the awareness and cooperation of principle investigators and students in timeliness of project completion. This is aimed at ensuring that RUFORUM funded projects stay on course in light of the grant award letter commitments. Thus the objectives of the side event are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bring principle investigators implementing the 2014 and 2015 projects together and create synergies through establishment of thematic research group; and 2. Undertake review and feedback on the grant awards, create urgency and concerted engagement for timely project completion. 3. Create opportunity for face to face interactions on cross cutting as well as specific issues on grant management.
<p>Approach and Methodology</p>	<p>This side event is a closed event for the principal investigators implementing the Graduate Research Grants (GRGS), Nurturing Grants (NG) and the Community Action Research Programmes (CARPs) and their students. The programme will be implemented through a presentation and open plenary dialogue and a social dialogue through coffee and tea break sessions. Further guided inquiry and brainstorming will be encouraged during the session that lead to common resolution and strategic actions for achieving timeliness of project completion. The approach will focus on ensuring that the specific objectives of the meeting are achieved as outlined in the below.</p>
<p>Objectives</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Facilitate the achievement of a shared understanding between PIs and RUFORUM Secretariat of the Graduate Research Grants and CARPS in the context of RUFORUM mission and aspirations. 2. Evaluate progress of implementation of GRG and CARP grants 3. Establish a working relationship (Community of Practice, CoP) between and among PIs of the 2014 and 2015 RUFORUM GRG projects 4. Support PIs in timely reporting and accounting for the projects

Activities and Approach	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Focused discussions on the essence and operation of the GRGs and CARPS 2. Presentation by PIs on progress of respective grants by PIs 3. Strategies for timely graduation of students and project closure 4. Inter-disciplinary collaboration and partnerships for impactful R4D 5. Cluster research teams in thematic groups and stimulate discussions 6. Presentation of created PIs community of practice D-groups 7. Plenary presentation and discussions
Expected Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A well-articulated and agreeable positions on timely project completion; • Issues of concern that need to be handled from the RUFORUM Secretariat side and those that critically need to be addressed by the universities including innovative student examination; • A network of thematic research groups (TRGs) based on based on value chains as well as increased professional and expertise coordination established.
Venue and Participants	<p>Venue: Century City Conference Centre Meeting Rooms 8 & 9 Time & Date: 830-1730 on 17 October 2016</p>
Side Event Organizers and Contact	<p>The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) P.O Box 16811 Wandegaya - Kampala, Uganda Tel: +256-417-713-300 (Office) Contact: Dr. Paul Nampala Grants Manager, RUFORUM E-mail: p.nampala@ruforum.org</p> <p>Henry Massa Makuma Programme Officer Grants, RUFORUM E-mail: h.massa@ruforum.org</p>

Side Event Programme

RUFORUM Principal Investigators Meeting 17th October, 2016 Meeting Room 8 & 9, CCCC		
MAIN THEME		
Time	Sub Theme	Responsible
0830 - 0900	Arrival and registration	Henry
0900 - 0910	Introductions	Henry
0910 - 0930	Objectives of the RUFORUM Principal Investigators Meeting	Paul
0910 - 0930	Overview of the RUFORUM CGS and how each research fits in the mission and vision of RUFORUM	Paul
0930 - 1000	Pitch presentation on progress of CARP	All
1030 - 1100	Health break	
1100 - 1230	Pitch presentation on progress of each GRG	All
1230 - 1230	Tips on effective project management and graduate student supervision	Dr. Maina Mwangi
1240 - 1310	Discussions	Paul
1310 - 1400	Lunch break	
1400 - 1420	Conceptual basis for establishment of thematic groups	Paul
1420 - 1500	Group work	All
1530 - 1530	Plenary presentation and discussions	All
1530 - 1600	Experience with RIMS and support to reporting and accounting on RUFORUM Grants	Henry
1600 - 1630	Health Break	
1630 - 1640	Group work on RIMS	Henry
1640 - 1700	Evaluation	Henry

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

4th GCHERA World Dialogue 2016:

Global Leadership and Transformative Changes to Meet the Challenges of the 21st C In Partnership with the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR)

Concept Note

Background

GCHERA, the Global Confederation of Higher Education Associations for Agricultural and Life Sciences, whose member universities educate, research and lead innovation in agricultural and life sciences. GCHERA's members are 14 regional or national Higher Education Associations which represent over 900 individual universities worldwide. GCHERA is proud to be harnessing this expertise in higher education to contribute to certain GCARD3 outcomes.

GCHERA, a GFAR partner, played an active role in developing GCARD3's goal to adopt measures to keep science timely and relevant, and to take immediate collective action to scale out best practices in capacity development. GCARD3 participants looked for ways to "transcend fragmented efforts" and work collectively to deliver a "vibrant new generation of agricultural researchers and entrepreneurs." Three collective actions were proposed:

1. Developing a program of continuing professional education for researchers, educators, extensionists and farmers.
2. Reforming undergraduate education across 100 universities on five continents, with a focus on producing graduates who meet 21st century needs.
3. Training an additional 1000 PhDs per year under a new North-South partnership model that twins universities and research centres in developing and developed countries.

GCHERA is taking a lead in collaboration with GFAR in further developing two GCARD3 actions – reforming undergraduate education and training an additional 1000 PhDs per year. This work is directly in line with GCHERA's goals and objectives as laid out in GCHERA's 2016-2020 Action Plan which was developed with the support of GFAR.

We all know the importance of education in agricultural and life sciences to provide the leaders to address our ever growing population needs for safe and nutritious food, and the need for the conservation of energy and natural resources and the sustainability of environment. New technology –nanotechnology, communications technology, GIS and biotech - must be used to enhance intensive, but sustainable, production.

Our agricultural and life science universities need to provide graduates with the knowledge, skills, ethical foundation, and creativity to have successful careers in industry, government, NGOs and civil society. These employers require staff who not only have the knowledge, skills and competencies to act in specialist fields, but who are also leaders in their field.

Agricultural and life science universities around the world need to update their structures, curricula and teaching practices to deliver well qualified graduates at all levels with these competences to address the societal needs of the 21st C as exemplified by the Sustainable Development Goals.

Purpose of the Side Event	The 4 th GCHERA World Dialogue 2016, in partnership with GFAR, will address how to provide leadership and invoke action to enhance education practices at agricultural and life science universities around the world. This meeting will be followed by the GCHERA General Assembly 2016.
Objectives of the side Event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish an Alliance which will take steps to deliver the GCARD3 outcome-Undergraduate Education Reform to meet 21st Century Societal Needs. The possible approaches will be considered, likely ranging from small scale action to large scale action investment opportunities. • Identify potential partners that GCHERA and GFAR can invite to join the Alliance to execute the identified opportunities.
Approach and Methodology	Members of the GCHERA Higher Education Associations, GFAR, representatives from other selected networks, and partners from the private sector will identify opportunities to take action to deliver on the GCARD 3 Theme Undergraduate Education Reform to meet 21st Century Societal Needs. The discussion will focus on identifying the steps in change management that will be required to enhance the education process to provide the future leaders with the required knowledge, skills and competences.
Venue and Participants	The GCHERA meeting will be held on Monday 17 October 2016, from 09:00 to 18:00, in Meeting Room 11 of the Century City Conference Centre, No. 4 Energy Lane, Century City, Cape Town, 7446, South Africa.
Side Event Organizers and Contact	Dr Simon B Heath GCHERA Secretary General secretariat@gchera.com www.gchera.com

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Collaborative Research and Capacity Building of Sokoine University of Agriculture and the National Agriculture Research System in Tanzania: Lessons Sharing on Implementation

Concept Note

Background

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) has been partnering with Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI), a USAID Feed the Future Project, in building human capital investment in the next generation of intellectual, economic and political leaders in Tanzania. This joint project aims to strengthen training and collaborative research capacities of Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) and the Tanzanian Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives (MAFC) with the goal of improving food security and agricultural productivity in Tanzania.

Over the years, agricultural productivity in Tanzania has stagnated while vulnerability to food and nutrition insecurity has increased. Rates of malnutrition are high even among food-producing households. With a high population growth rate, Tanzania will face severe food shortages unless widespread agricultural productivity advances occur. Meeting this challenge, requires new knowledge, new ways of doing business in agriculture and food systems, and greater accumulation of assets by farm households. However, the Agricultural training, research, and outreach organizations lack the capacity needed to boost food production to new levels.

Within the iAGRI project arrangement, RUFORUM has been a lead service provider to oversee training of 30 Tanzanian MSc students in selected Eastern and Southern Africa universities, namely, University of Nairobi, Makerere University, University of Zambia, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT), University of Zimbabwe, Egerton University, Lilongwe Universities of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR), Kenyatta University and Stellenbosch University. RUFORUM's engagement in this program is mainly based on its successful track record in implementing similar continental capacity building initiatives such as Strengthening Capacity for Agricultural Research and Development in Africa (SCARDA). Additionally, Tanzania as a country has been a member country of RUFORUM since 2006 through Sokoine University of Agriculture. There are also students within the iAGRI project who have trained from the USA universities. This has been a unique training model which should be reviewed to provide lessons for other upcoming capacity building initiatives.

The key features of the project include:

- Training of Scientists: by 2017 the project will have trained 20 PhD and 115 MSc. Students.
- Collaborative research; More than 130 research projects related to food security funded through iAGRI bridge the distance between global partners for workshops, research and student advising through use of modern technology.
- Building Capacity: SUA will be helped to develop and implement enhanced instructional, internship and outreach programs through joint research and international exchanges between Tanzanian and U.S. researchers and scholars.
- Building Linkages: sound linkages between iAGRI of the Ohio State University Consortium, Tanzania's Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania's National Agricultural Research System, RUFORUM and Global South Institutions.

	To date, a lot has been achieved and the project will end in early 2017. Hence, it is important to hold a platform for lesson sharing which will draw from the annual project reports, students' individual experiences, Partners' experiences and feedback in the implementation of the project. This will help to obtain a synthesis of lessons which will contribute to the deeper understanding of how the project has worked at all operational levels, especially in terms of implementation undertaken by RUFORUM.
Objectives of the side Event	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To identify core push-pull factors at play during the implementation of the project. 2. To share challenges in the design and implementation of this projects. 3. To identify key value-added aspects associated with this joint project. 4. To identify quick wins for scaling-up and incorporation in future undertakings.
Approach and Methodology	A series of Power Presentations will be made by project partners and selected students on their experiences in the implementation of the project. Open discussions will follow to tease out key issues for consideration in future undertakings.
Output of the meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A lesson sharing meeting report will be generated. • Key issues to inform future human capital development efforts.
Venue and Participants	<p>Venue: Century City Conference Centre, Meeting Room 7 Date & Time: Monday 17th October 2016 from 1730-2100 Participants of the meeting will include RUFORUM Secretariat staff, IAGRI staff, and selected students supported through the joint project.</p>
Side Event Organizers and Contact	<p>The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) P.O Box 16811 Wandegaya - Kampala, Uganda Tel: +256-417-713-300 (Office) Contact: Mrs Sylvia Mkandawire Training Officer Email: s.chindime@ruforum.org</p>

Side Event Programme

SESSION: CCCC Meeting Room 7		
MAIN THEME		
Time	Sub Theme	Responsible
17.30 - 17.45	Welcoming remarks	Prof Adipala Ekwamu
17.45 - 18.00	Self-Introductions & Setting the Scene	Sylvia Mkandawire
18.00 - 18.15	Project Overview - Presentation	Mark Erbaugh
18.15 - 18.30	RUFORUM Progress report	Dr Solange Uwituze
18.30 - 18.45	IAGRI – US Experience sharing	Dr David Kraybill
18.45-19.00	Student 1 – Experience Sharing	Sylvia C Mkandawire
19.00-19.15	Student 2 – Experience Sharing	Sylvia C Mkandawire
19.15-20.40	Open Discussion	Dr Solange Uwituze
20.40-21.00	Way- forward	All

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Training the Next Generation of Scientists: Lessons and Experience from the Carnegie supported Project

Concept Note

Background

It is becoming increasingly well recognized that in Africa higher education has long been ignored and that investing in higher education in Africa is urgent, and agricultural higher education is particularly important to galvanize development in rural areas. In fact, human capital formation is the key to improving national productivity and growth. Africa's agriculture and environment related faculties could play a key role in the transformation necessary to produce the leaders and graduates needed to achieve the targeted Africa Union's 6% growth. However the universities need to radically transform as articulated in the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Program (CAADP) Framework for African Agriculture Productivity (FAAP). Programs that develop highly skilled leaders within Africa, while they are still actively employed and that provide opportunities for high quality, internationally competitive doctoral course work and supervision of their research in the home base, will help to address the shortages.

RUFORUM is actively engaged in transforming African higher education to better serve demand and link more closely with smallholder farmers and national stakeholders to ensure curricula, pedagogy, and research that is relevant. RUFORUM facilitates innovative and responsive post-graduate degree programs and research. It promotes the training of high performing, proactive graduates, a dynamic platform for university networking, and carries out advocacy for agricultural higher education and broader S&T investment in Africa.

For the past four years, the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) has been collaborating with Carnegie Cooperation of New York in the implementation of a project aiming at supporting doctoral students, and in particular their research, in order to improve the capacity of universities to provide the human capital and leadership that is adaptable and able to meet the needs of the rural communities. Currently, RUFORUM has received a phase II of project funding which runs up to 2017. Accordingly, RUFORUM has organised a lesson learning meeting during the 5th Biennial Conference to take stock and reflect on the project's implementation of activities. The project has remarkably contributed to the training of the critical mass of scientists whose research has contributed in solving some of the problems of the rural communities in various parts of the African continent. In addition to this, the project has helped RUFORUM to strengthen her collaboration with West African universities through staff exchange visits and PhD training.

Purpose of the side event

The purpose of the side event is to provide a platform for interaction with the funded students and to discuss the progress in the implementation of the project.

Objectives

1. To review progress in the implementation of the Carnegie project – Phase I & II
2. To provide platform for interaction and networking among the beneficiaries of the project and the project facilitators (RUFORUM and Carnegie).
3. To develop recommendations, as well as to put forward strategies for effective implementation of the remaining activities of project
4. Explore possible avenues of linking the project with other available initiatives in Higher Agricultural Education Training, Research
5. Initiate discussions on how to support the settling of the grantees who complete their studies

Approach and Methodology	A series of Power Presentations will be made by project partners and selected students on their experiences in the implementation of the project. Open discussions will follow to tease out issues for synthesis which will inform decisions for accelerating the project successes.
Outputs of the meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A lesson sharing meeting report • A clear understanding of the project objectives and design by the current grantees • Suggestions to improve phase 2 implementation
Venue and Participants	<p>Venue: Century City Conference Centre, Meeting Room 8 & 9. Date & Time: Monday 17th October 2016 from 1730 - 2100 The participants of the meeting will include, RUFORUM Secretariat staff, Officials from the Carnegie Cooperation of New York, and selected students supported through the project.</p>
Side Event Organizers and Contact	<p>The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) P.O Box 16811 Wandegaya - Kampala, Uganda Tel: +256-417-713-300 (Office) Contact: Dr Solange Uwituze Training and Quality Assurance Manager Email: s.uwituze@ruforum.org</p>

Side Event Programme

SESSION: CCCC Meeting Room 7		
MAIN THEME		
Time	Sub Theme	Responsible
17.30 - 17.45	Welcoming remarks	Prof Adipala Ekwamu
17.45 - 18.00	Remarks from Carnegie Cooperation	Andrea Johnson
18.00 - 18.15	Self-Introductions & Setting the Scene	Sylvia Mkandawire
18.15 - 18.30	Project Overview - Presentation	Dr Solange Uwituze
18.30 - 18.45	Student Representative for 2 year Grants Beneficiaries– Experience Sharing	Sylvia Mkandawire
18.45 - 19.00	Student Representative for GTA grants category – Experience Sharing	Sylvia Mkandawire
19.00 - 19.15	Student representative for Doctoral finalization grants	Sylvia Mkandawire
19.15 - 20.40	Open Discussion	All
20.40 - 21.00	Way- forward	All

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Postharvest Management: Innovation for sustainable systems within value chains that improve smallholder incomes

Concept Note

Background

The Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network's (FANRPAN) is currently implementing its 2016-2023 strategic plan. The plan focusses on two thematic thrusts, namely, Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) and Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture (NSA). The two thematic thrusts are intended to ensure (i) A transformed African agriculture and food systems through the development and implementation of evidence-based Policy (ii) Adequate, safe and nutritious food for Africa, and (iii) Climate change resilient and resource sustainable food systems in Africa.

Climate change is emphasized as one of the greatest global challenges as we strive to ensure sustainable food security for a growing population. It affects agricultural food production and income generation for smallholder farmers in complex ways: current cultivars may not continue to be suitable for production as the climate changes occur; land suitability to current agricultural practices may need to be reviewed; conditions of post-harvest food safety may change as changing climatic conditions may increase the vector pressure; among others. The pressure that climate change is putting on agriculture food production inherently affects smallholder farmer incomes as they struggle to produce and sell their commodities.

Food and nutrition security also poses a challenge for Africa. Post-harvest food losses and aflatoxin contamination are some of the largest contributing factors to food insecurity and under-nutrition in Sub-Saharan Africa. These factors significantly lower the quality and volume of food available for consumption and sale, thus aggravating hunger, malnutrition, and reducing smallholder household income. In Sub-Saharan Africa only, annual food losses exceed 30 per cent of total crop production translating to more than USD\$4 billion per annum.

In recognition of these challenges for CSA and NSA and as part of contributing to innovative approaches for sustainable systems within value chains that improve smallholder incomes, FANRPAN is implementing projects that are addressing issues around innovative PHM technologies, gender and social equity in PHM, cost benefit analysis of PHM technologies and stemming aflatoxin pre- and post-harvest waste. Research from the projects has shown that rural agriculture and innovative techniques for post-harvest management is of critical importance for sustained smallholder income that enhances food security. However, climatic risks continue to threaten agricultural production and increase post-harvest losses. The presence of aflatoxins, poisonous and cancer-causing compounds that are produced by certain pathogenic moulds compromise the health, safety and nutritional value of grains and pulses (especially groundnuts) thereby affecting their marketability and consequently smallholder income. Therefore, there is a need for governments to show more commitment to the agriculture sector and address the challenges therein.

Objectives of the side Event/ Policy dialogue

The specific objectives of the policy dialogue are:

1. To identify opportunities for mainstreaming PHM into the tertiary education curriculum;
2. To provide a regional perspective of the climate risks to crop production and post-harvest handling with a specific focus on pulses and grains and aflatoxin contamination;

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To solicit policy recommendations for advocating for PHM approaches and techniques that increase smallholder income at regional level; 2. To chart a way forward on how best to develop synergies among different stakeholders and sectors, with the aim of scaling up and out PHM best practices and technologies that increase smallholder income and; maintain continuous dialogue on climate risks to crop production and post-harvest handling including aflatoxin issues.
Expected outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved understanding of the potential of PHM in addressing the challenges of food security (especially income generation) in the face of climate change; • Improved understanding of the climate risks to crop production and post-harvest handling including aflatoxin issues and how these affect household income; • Policy options and innovative approaches for early action to accelerate deployment of promising PHM technologies and, practices with a particular emphasis on strengthening adaptation and application in Africa; and • Clear recommendations for policy makers with regards to PHM.
Approach and Methodology	<p>The Policy Dialogue will take place alongside the 5th Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) Biennial Conference under the sub-theme: Innovation for sustainable systems within value chains that improve smallholder incomes. This will be a one day side event dedicated to sharing research results, lessons learnt and panel discussions around issues of post-harvest loss management, reduction of aflatoxin in the groundnut value chain (GnVC) and management of climate-related risks to crop production for increased smallholder incomes</p>
Venue and Participants	<p>The regional policy dialogue will take place in Cape Town, South Africa at the Century City Conference Centre on Monday 17th October 2016, Hall C from 0830-1730.</p> <p>Who will attend the Policy Dialogue? The Regional Policy Dialogue participants will include representatives from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant governments ministries and departments, • Civil society member/non-government organization • Farmers organizations • Intergovernmental organization (including UN entities) • Research/extension/education organization • Financing institution • Private sector • Youth organisations
Side Event Organizers and Contact	<p>Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN) Talentus Mthunzi: TMthunzi@fanrpan.org Sharon Alfred: SALfred@fanrpan.org Copy: secretary@fanrpan.org / policy@fanrpan.org</p>

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Reviewing and Documenting Status and Trends in Agricultural Higher Education in Africa

Concept Note

Introduction & Background

Agriculture is Africa's most important economic sector. The sector supports the livelihoods of over 90 percent of Africa's population. It also provides employment for, on average, 60 percent of the economically active population, and 70 percent of the continent's poorest communities. Despite the potential of the agribusiness sector, inadequate attention has been paid to the sector. Agriculture coupled with agri-business have greater potential to address the employment crisis facing Africa in the face of a rapidly bulging population. Vibrant agricultural growth has a strong multiplier effect on economic growth economy-wide – and is one of the most effective factors in achieving poverty reduction. Despite this foreseeable benefits of agriculture, Africa's investment in agriculture is still limited in many aspects. For example, though agricultural spending in Africa has gradually increased over the last decade at 2.6% rate per annum, it is nonetheless lower when compared to Asia where it has more than doubled at annual growth rate of 4.1 percent. Further, labour productivity per worker engaged in agriculture is lower compared to other parts of the world. This indicates the sub-optimal production levels as well as limited returns on investment in the agricultural sector.

Increasing agricultural productivity and production including addressing agribusiness components and transitioning smallholder farmers in Africa to market-oriented and profitable agriculture requires investments in human capital development. Human capital development in Africa remains weak, limited by financial and infrastructure resources but further constrained by a lack of prioritization of agricultural sciences. Agriculture clearly has the potential to absorb the youth and offer opportunity for profitable employment along agricultural value chains and potential to include and improve agricultural practice by farmers and other actors. Investment in Higher education, on the other hand, has been shown to provide a 12% increase in GDP following a one year increase in the average tertiary education. As such, there is basis for enhancing human capital development in Africa. Well-informed farmers, 'educated' rather than learned farmers, as well as organised and aggregated farmers have greater potential to increase agricultural productivity in space and time, harness the benefits and business flows of the agricultural space expand their agricultural estates with a high ability to absorb and contain agricultural risks. These potentials are still marginally achieved especially in sub-Saharan Africa; particularly because schooling levels among African farmers is immensely low with ripple effects often passed to the next generations as parents are unable to similarly educate their children.

A critical challenge remains in Africa, how to achieve a desired progress of lifting smallholders farmers out of poverty yet they have minimum to no education. Secondly, how to further scale Africa's agricultural horizon into the future as well as move African agriculture from subsistence to market orientation. Recent developments have indicated the need for a blended engagement approach to ensure that graduates have both technical and ability to support community development. This requires that higher education institutions shift their training approaches to enhance practical experience that includes work with farmers. Further, there is increased attention paid to agriculture technical vocational education and training (ATVET) as one component of the educational value chain with greater impetus to deliver significant transformation benefits to both the farmers, the education system and governments. However, tapping this remains a challenge, in fact there is limited evidence from the African landscape where this has successfully been modelled and delivered commendable results in the recent past.

	<p>In the 2007 World Bank book “Cultivating knowledge and skills to grow African agriculture: a synthesis of an institutional, regional, and international review”, key issues regarding formal agricultural education and training (AET) were raised. The book, which was published almost decade ago, provided a basis for engagement, discussion and investment in this sector. The book raises the fundamental abandonment of investment in AET by both governments and donors. Further, it was recognised that priorities for intervention in AET have largely remained unclear and thus the sector has often ‘fallen through the cracks’ due to the multi-sectoral nature of agricultural education. What appears to be emerging is the need for collaborative action that requires: (i) greater coherence to investment in Tertiary Agricultural Education (TAE) in Africa; (ii) increased financial and technical support as well as attention to TAE; (iii) innovative actions to ensure quality and relevance of the rapidly expanding higher education sector especially in sub-Saharan Africa; and (iv) well facilitated and guided reform and transformation of Africa’s TAE institutions to facilitate the transformation of agricultural education and make it relevant to farmers and national development.</p> <p>Considering that it is close to a decade since the World Bank book was published, it is necessary to further review updated within the TAE sector and document the current and future status to provide a more up-to-date analysis and opportunities for investment.. Accordingly, RUFORUM in partnership with The MasterCard Foundation and the World Bank have proposed the commencement of the book review. The understanding is that the revised book, shall be in position to provide evidence on how to achieve the espoused agricultural development and transformation agenda and horizon for Africa.</p>
Purpose of the Side Event	<p>The revised book would provide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An update emerging trends and patterns in agricultural tertiary education; 2. Opportunity for South-North and South-South collaboration to articulate a strategic vision for TAE capacity building in Africa; 3. Develop metrics and indicators for priority setting in Africa, investment matching in TAE and monitoring success of investment-returns on investment; 4. Provide evidence on the working and non-working TAE models that have been utilised with smallholder farmers and that that which requires further refinement for relevance to the sector;
Approach and Methodology	<p>RUFORUM and the World Bank have agreed to explore working together as partners in the development of such a document. RUFORUM in partnership with The MasterCard Foundation have secured initial financing to move this process forward and the World Bank been invited to join in supporting this collaborative work as a third partner with both technical and financial support. Open discussion (Close session to invited persons only). The process to commence the implementation of updating the book (Cultivating Knowledge and Skills to Grow African Agriculture: A Synthesis of an Institutional, Regional, and International Review) has commenced. At the RUFORUM Biennial meeting 17th-21st October, 2016; a side event session focused on addressing and defining this process as part of commencing the publication planning will be undertaken.</p>
Expected outcomes	<p>This meeting will deliver the following outcomes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Purpose and scope of the book review defined; 2. The agricultural space, including current and emerging trends, scanned; 3. Agree on Table of Contents for the Book; 4. Potential contributors identified; 5. Road map with timeframes developed and agreed.
Contact person	<p>Moses Osiru (m.osiru@ruforum.org), Deputy Executive Secretary, RUFORUM</p>

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

“Transforming African Agricultural Universities to meaningfully contribute to Africa’s growth and development (TAGDEv)

Concept Note

<p>Introduction & Background</p>	<p>The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) and member universities in partnership with the MasterCard Foundation are implementing a project, TAGDEv which aims at strengthening the capacity of African Agricultural universities and their graduates to transform agriculture and accelerate growth and development of sustainable livelihoods in Africa. The Project will achieve this through, transformation of university curricula and linked activities to strengthen university capacity to produce graduates with appropriate skills to engage with communities and conduct research that addresses the needs of smallholder farmers, and further facilitate entrepreneurship development at community level. Best practices on teaching and learning emerging from the program will be documented and shared globally as research and policy briefs, research papers in referred journals and conferences. These will form the basis for scaling out to the wider RUFORUM Network.</p> <p>The project is founded on four interfacing objectives namely; (a) Piloting a new model of agricultural education at early adopter universities that connects tertiary agricultural education to rural communities, with an emphasis on smallholder farmers; (b) strengthening agribusiness/entrepreneurship at two universities and selected TVET institutions; (c) scaling the new model for agricultural education to other agricultural universities and TVET institutions and (d) increased collaboration and mutual learning among institutions and agencies implementing and influencing innovative Tertiary Agricultural Education for rural transformation in Africa. These objectives help define the action points for the project will seek to achieve over the course eight years.</p>
<p>Purpose of the Side Event</p>	<p>An implementation planning meeting held in August 2016 highlighted key documents required for the successful operation of the TAGDEv projects. One of the essential documents is the monitoring and evaluation plan, a guiding document clarifying how the M & E system should be run. The project team will meet to review the plan in addition to the suggestions for the improved online platform (RIMS) so as to increase relevance to the project.</p> <p>The meeting will be held on Monday 17th October, 2016 (19:00-21:00 HRS)</p>
<p>Objectives of the meeting</p>	<p>Discuss and provide input into the:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Discuss the project implementation work plan b. Discuss the key implementation and guiding documents including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SOPs • Recruitment guidelines • Recruitment tool • Monitoring and evaluation Plan • CARP call • Call for applications • Sample website • Review of the RIMS and applicable tools c. Agree on timely delivery of activities set-out and realistically deliver on the project

Approach and Methodology	RUFORUM, Gulu University and Egerton University are the key implementing partners in the TAGDev project financed by The MasterCard Foundation. As part of commencing project implementation harmonization of the project delivery documents and a sound understanding of the key benchmarks during project delivery is critical. This closed meeting to project implementing partners will be an open facilitated discussion.
Contact person	Dr. Anthony Egeru (a.egeru@ruforum.org), Regional Coordinator, MCF@RUFORUM.

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

The Twelfth RUFORUM Annual General Meeting

Concept Note

Introduction & Background	<p>Established in 2004, The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) is a Network of 60 African universities in 25 countries whose vision is 'a vibrant agricultural sector linked to African universities which produce high performing graduates and high-quality research responsive to the demands of Africa's farmers for innovations and able to generate sustainable livelihoods and national economic development'. The Network has several unique features for building Africa's innovation capacity and for engaging universities in development process and practice; i) It is owned and managed by Africans; ii) It derives its agenda largely from the continent wide policy frameworks especially of the African Union Agenda 2063 and the New Partnership for African Development's (NEPAD) Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP), the African Union Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA) 2024, Continental Education Strategy for Africa 2016-2025, the Sub regional Multi-Country Agricultural Productivity Programmes, National Strategy Papers of the member States and Governments and constant review of global trends and foresight planning to ensure Africa has the required capacity for global competitiveness; and iii) it allows for joint action by the member universities and stakeholders in higher education and agricultural sectors.</p> <p>RUFORUM's vibrancy emanates from its own character, which a) allows for ownership and direction of network activities by member universities, b) for identification of priorities from national level to inform regional thrusts, c) ensures broad consultation and consensus on regional level activities by members, and d) promotes sharing of resources, rather than competition, across the network for capacity building in agriculture and the broader Science and Technology Innovation (STI). The AGM is a key platform for achievement of the above. Each year, RUFORUM members and stakeholders meet at its (AGM) to discuss issues facing network members and strategies to overcome these challenges. The AGM is organised and hosted on a rotational arrangement amongst member universities /countries. The AGM is the supreme decision making organ of the RUFORUM Network; it oversees Network interventions and performs functions as deemed relevant for the achievement of RUFORUM objectives. Although a number of activities are associated with the AGM the actual AGM is a one day meeting which this year will be held on 18th October, 2016.</p>
Focus of the RUFORUM AGM	The theme of the 5 th Biennial conference "Linking Universities with private sector, government and other stakeholders in support for agricultural development in Africa" builds on the strategic objectives of RUFORUM Strategic and Business Plan for 2015-2020 that was approved in Windhoek, Namibia.

	<p>The Plan envisages an enhanced engagement of University actors along the whole value chain, including sister organizations and the private sector in mutually beneficial research and training to accelerate delivery of agricultural science-based innovations. The 2016 RUFORUM Biennial Conference, the fifth in the series, aims to provide a platform for sharing experiences and lessons among Higher Agricultural Education actors in Africa and the globe at large towards strengthening higher agricultural education in Africa through partnerships with the private sector and industry. Each other year, a specific thematic area is selected towards achieving the mission of RUFORUM. The 2016 Biennial Conference will purposely strive to enhance the linkages among universities (leadership, lecturers and students), governments, the private sector, civil society and policy makers for increased investments and partnership to enhance contribution of the Higher Education sector to development. The Conference will provide opportunity to hear directly from the Private Sector on their demands related to how the Higher Education Sector can better contribute towards their business processes. The private sector will also be engaged to share how they can direct portion of their social responsibility towards higher education. Universities will solicit for feedback from the private sector on training initiatives and across universities on best practices to engage other stakeholders.</p>
<p>Objectives of the RUFORUM 12th AGM</p>	<p>The 12th RUFORUM AGM will have the following objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review and approve Minutes of the 11th AGM, held August 2015 in Windhoek, Namibia; 2. Receive and approve Reports for the Activity Year July 2015 – June 2016 and Annual Work plan and Budget for the Activity Year July 2016 – June 2017; 3. Receive an update of RUFORUM international policy engagements in support of Higher Education in Africa; 4. Consider requests for membership from universities that wish to be part of the RUFORUM network; 5. Recognise outstanding university achievers; 6. Recognise Young African Innovators.
<p>Approach and Methodology</p>	<p>The AGM will be held on Tuesday, 18th October, 2016 at Crystal Towers under the Chair of the current Board Chair Prof. Mabel Imbuga. It is organised in collaboration with the Agricultural Research Council and will be opened by the South African Minister of Agriculture. The meeting will review minutes of the previous AGM held in Windhoek, Namibia in August 2015, review reports from the Secretariat for the year ended June 30, 2016, and Secretariat work plans for the subsequent year (2016/17). The AGM will receive and consider External Auditor's report for 2015/16 and appoint Auditor for 2016/17. The 12th AGM will also provide guidance on the next AGM and 2018 Biennial Conference.</p>
<p>Venue and Participants</p>	<p>The 12th RUFORUM AGM will be held on Tuesday 18th October, 2016 at Crystal Towers, Cape Town, South Africa. Approximately 200 participants are expected to attend the AGM 2016. Participants will include Vice-Chancellors/ Presidents/ Rectors and University Principals/ Deans (from both full member universities and associate member universities) and other key invited stakeholders.</p> <p>Time: 0830-1300</p>
<p>Side Event Organizers and Contact</p>	<p>The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) P.O Box 16811 Wandegaya - Kampala, Uganda Tel: +256-417-713-300 (Office) Contact: Mr. Charles Owuor E-mail: c.owuor@ruforum.org</p>

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

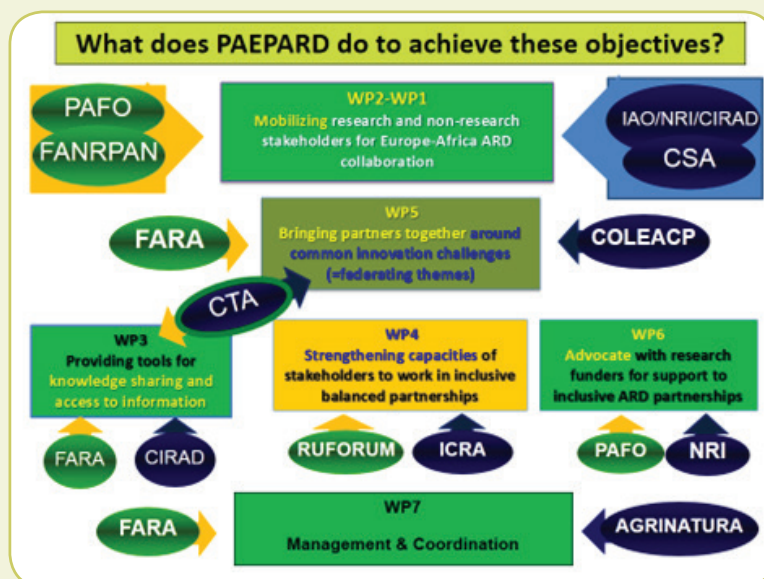
Engaging Universities in Farmer-Led Research

Concept Note

Background

Worldwide, millions of farmers are addressing livelihood constraints and exploring new opportunities by experimenting with unique combinations of indigenous knowledge and new ideas from a variety of sources. Their local innovations include both “hard” technologies, such as tools or for example pest management techniques, and “soft” innovations, such as new ways of communications or marketing. These socio-institutional changes are generated by groups rather than individuals. Increasingly, international appreciation for the potential of building on local innovation has grown (e.g., Reij and Waters-Bayer, 2000). However, the current mechanisms for funding participatory research for development, such as competitive grant schemes are largely controlled and focusing on supporting research designed by researchers as opposed to farmer-led/demand driven research. They favour activities that involve farmers in the work of researchers and extensionists rather than involve these user-groups in incorporating ideas to shape research design and implementation. Research users, particularly farmers have difficulty accessing these bureaucratic structures and cannot genuinely influence them.

In light of the above, the Platform for Africa-Europe Partnerships in Agricultural Research for Development (PAEPARD) initiated in 2009 is grounded on the need to mobilize multi-stakeholders actors and equip them to advocate for flexible funding mechanisms that support farmer (End-user)-led Agricultural Research for Development processes. The overall objective of the Platform is to build joint African-European multi-stakeholder partnerships in ARD contributing to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Specifically, the different partners in PAEPARD are engaged with a view to ensure “enhanced, more equitable, more demand-driven; and mutually beneficial collaboration of Africa and Europe on ARD with the aim of attaining the SDGs.” The different partners (see Fig. 1) have since 2009, been effectively engaged in implementing project activities.



The PAEPARD implementation activities have in the process engaged several universities in Africa (through RUFORUM) and Europe (through the AGRINATURA). The 5th RUFORUM Biennial and Higher Education week presents opportunity for the Platform to showcase both “hard” technologies as well as “soft” innovations in ARD.

Aims and Objectives of the side Event	<p>The aim of the side-event is to showcase PAEPARD achievements as part of process of laying a foundation for continuity of project activities. The side-event will facilitate reaching out to a wide group of stakeholder in higher agricultural education and practitioners as well as development actors in Agricultural Sector.</p>
Approach and Methodology	<p>The event is part of activities of under the four-year PAEPARD II Extension (PAEPARD II 4YE) and responds to all the Result Areas outline in the project Log frame. It will organised as a side event during the 5th RUFORUM Biennial and Higher Education Week which is Scheduled for 17 – 21st October 2016, in Cape Town, South Africa. The theme chosen for the 2016 Conference is “Linking Agricultural Universities with Civil Society, the Private Sector, Governments and other Stakeholders in support of Agricultural Development in Africa”. It will be a facilitator-led meeting and in order to allow for active engagement the facilitator(s) will use both group-work and plenary sessions and encourage use of visual aids including flip-charts and PowerPoint presentation to capture contributions and ideas from individuals and groups. The 5th RUFORUM Biennial will attract over 700 participants from different sub-sectors of ARD, and efforts will be made to reach out and attract between 50 – 100 conference attendee to join the PAEPARD Session. The conference also presents opportunity to package and publish results and experiences of project implementation and it is expected that all invited participants will prepare and submit Extended Abstracts using templates available from www.ruforum.org</p>
Outputs/ outcomes	<p>The side event will deliver the following outputs and outcomes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Synthesis report with recommendations of “how to effectively engage universities and other academe actors to undertake collaborative research with farmers, as part of the farmer-led research agenda. 2. Enhanced networking between User-Led Process (ULP) and PAEPARD Consortia as well as with stakeholders in higher education particular university research teams implementing community-action research; 3. Visibility of PAEPARD and multi-stakeholder approaches promoted.
Venue and Participants	<p>Venue: Century City Conference Centre, Meeting Room 10. Date & Time: 0800-1300, Tuesday 18th October 2016. Work Package Capacities will engage participants and PAEPARD leadership to develop consensus on a detailed programme of activities to guide the half-day event.</p>
Side Event Organizers and Contact	<p>Participants will involve different stakeholders in ARD. The organizers are the Work Package Leader (RUFORUM, represented by Dr. Paul Nampala, p.nampala@ruforum.org) and Co-leader (ICRA, represented by Dr. Julia Ekong, Julia.Ekong@icra-edu.org) of Work Package Capacities. They will work closely with Session Facilitator(s), PAEPARD Coordination and Management Team as well as leaders of the other Work Packages, particularly that of coordination and Management (led by FARA) in the implementation of this event.</p>

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Strengthening Research and Scholarly Capacity of RUFORUM Graduate Fellows

Concept Note

Background & Introduction

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) is a network of 60 universities in 25 African countries. RUFORUM was formed by 10 visionary African Vice Chancellors in 2004 as a change agent organisation that will champion the integration of African universities in the continent's development processes. RUFORUM founders envisioned an organisation that will lead to 'a vibrant agricultural sector linked to African universities that can produce high-performing graduates and high-quality research, responsive to the demands of Africa's farmers for innovations, and able to generate sustainable livelihoods and national economic development'. To deliver on this vision, RUFORUM supports Network Universities to build effective human capital to engage in research, policy, service provision, and the private sector, as well as translate knowledge into innovations for sustained economic growth and food and nutrition security. It also focuses at ensuring that there is a delivery of top notch agricultural scientists with quality postgraduate education armed with both technical and transferable skills. The graduates should also have commitment to improve rural livelihoods and the heart of going back and giving back to society as an illumination of training in Africa for Africa.

RUFORUM operationalises its vision through its mission that seeks to 'strengthen the capacities of Universities to foster innovations responsive to the demands of smallholder farmers and value chains through the training of high quality researchers, the output of impact-oriented research, and the maintenance of collaborative working relations among researchers, farmers, market actors, national agricultural research and advocacy institutions, and governments'. At the center of these mission achievement are the Doctoral, Graduate Masters students and senior faculty (principal investigators). In the last 10 years RUFORUM has succeeded in training 1373 Masters graduates and 315 PhD students and made available up to 300 technologies, innovations and management practices (TIMPs) to communities, researchers and development practitioners in Africa.

RUFORUM continues to support graduate training in Africa and has projected to train additional 500 PhDs and 600 Masters by 2020 in the Regional Programmes and through Graduate Research Grants respectively. RUFORUM is on course in achieving these targets; at present there are 116 Masters Students and 85 PhD students undergoing training. This forms part of the African graduates trained in Africa to lead innovation and change processes in Africa. This crop of researchers and change agents require the utmost skills and exposure to strengthen their research and scholarly skills to better communicate their research output to different audiences.

The need for Research and scholarship skills enhancement

RUFORUM started capacity building efforts through supporting the training of University Faculty and Researchers that quickly went back to their positions in universities and research institutes. However, gradually there is an increased number of RUFORUM graduates that serve in the private sector and development agencies. Research communication to different audiences has therefore become a critical component in training this breed of African innovators and change agents. This calls for a sharpened focus on scholarship skills that help drive leadership among young researchers and change agents. RUFORUM acknowledges the recent shifts in pedagogical processes to focus attention away from the first generation towards second generation understanding of creativity.

	<p>The first generation creativity locates the creative enterprise as a complex set of behavior and ideas exhibited by an individual, while the second generation creativity locates the creative enterprise in the processes and products of collaborative and purposeful activity. Second generation creativity has therefore gained importance for a number of reasons: firstly, it is acknowledged as significant driver in the new or digital economy; recent clarification of the notion of 'creative capital' is immense; the stated commitment of a growing number of universities to 'more creativity' as part of their declared vision for their staff and students is a coveted and targeted opportunity that it helps in realisation. This therefore allows more space for engaging with creativity as an outcome of pedagogical work in higher education.</p> <p>This day side event will focus on theory and practice related to the development of such scholarship skills specifically needed to increase creativity of graduate fellows in their practice of academic writing, text production and audience and community/ stakeholder engagement. In addition, the side event will seek to strengthen graduate students competency in research; including among others their ability to propose innovative and/or original research that can connect to various research disciplines, critically evaluate methods and theory and demonstrate their ability to think outside the box; strengthen their capacity to articulate their line of opinion. Further, RUFORUM seeks to increase the volume and quality of scholarly articles published by the supported students in internationally recognized scientific journals. This side event will therefore serve to communicate the RUFORUM strategic direction in terms of scholarly demands.</p>
<p>Objectives of the side Event</p>	<p>The overall objective of this side event is to bring together RUFORUM current supported Masters and Doctoral students to a research and scholarships strengthening event. The specific objectives of this side event include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create a network of RUFORUM students that know and link to each other as a mechanism to build a stronger and networked RUFORUM training experience and alumni base. 2. Train supported students in selected transferable skills to prepare and set pace as change agents and leaders. 3. Train students in research and academic skills and prepare them to take leadership in transformative research in Africa. 4. Train students in publishing in internationally recognized journals such those hosted by Elsevier, Taylor and Francis, SAGE etc.
<p>Approach and Methodology</p>	<p>This research and scholarship strengthening side event training will take place at the RUFORUM Biennial and the Africa Higher Education Week Conference to be held in Cape Town from 17-21 October, 2016. There will be a number of events 15 and 16 October with a focused concluding session, the focus of the side event on Tuesday 18 October 2016.</p> <p>Suggested Content</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transferable skills for graduate students and change agents • How to publish in scholarly journals • Academic-practitioner collaboration; achieving relational scholarship of integration • Professional networks as learning, quality assurance, promoters and change makers
<p>Expected Outputs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RUFORUM supported students get to know each other and form a communities of practice; • Sharpening of graduate students research and scholarship skills; • Graduate students positioning and commitment to scholarship with a target to publish in internationally recognized journals; • A report of activities and training process including areas that need further focus by RUFORUM.

Venue and Participants	Venue: Century City Conference Centre, Hall A Date & Time: Tuesday 18th October 2016 from 0830-1300
Side Event Organizers and Contact	The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) P.O Box 16811 Wandegaya - Kampala, Uganda Tel: +256-417-713-300 (Office) Dr. Egeru Anthony (a.egeru@ruforum.org) Ms. Sylvia Chindime (s.chindime@ruforum.org)

Side Event Programme

SESSION:		
MAIN THEME: Strengthening Research and Scholarly Capacity of RUFORUM Graduate Fellows		
Time	Sub Theme	Responsible
08.30 - 8.40	Welcoming remarks	Dr. Osiru Moses
08.40 - 8.50	Opening Remarks	Dr. Wanjiru Kamau
08.50 - 9.15	Motivational Speaker	Prof. Olive Mugenda
09.15 - 10.15	Self-Introductions and registration	Ms. Sylvia Chindime
10.15 - 11.00	Transferable Skills for Pro-active Graduates	Facilitator
11.00 - 12.00	How to publish in scholarly journals	Facilitator
12.00 - 12.30	Academic-practitioner collaboration	Facilitator
12.30 - 13.00	Professional networks as learning and change makers	Facilitator
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch	All Reporters

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Innovating Partnerships: Applying frameworks and models in the real world

Concept Note

Background	<p>Michigan State University, Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR), and the Resilient Africa Network (RAN) headquartered at Makerere University are all actively striving to understand how to build stronger partnerships that lead to innovative community-oriented solutions to challenges. At Michigan State University, the Alliance for African Partnership, the Global Center for Food Systems Innovation (CGFSI), and the Borlaug Higher Education for Agricultural Research and Development (BHEARD) program have begun to develop models and identify best practices for partnerships which support innovative research, education, and outreach. LUANAR is innovating new ways to connect with communities and carry out problem-solving research while providing students with hands-on learning experiences. Each of these institutions has had to navigate complex landscapes in different ways to advance the aims of developing and promoting innovative 'ecosystems'. However, while frameworks and models are a necessary step for building and supporting innovative partnerships, they must reflect real world challenges. Models are relatively easy, implementing successful partnerships can be hard. This event will draw on real world experiences of attendees to challenge concepts on how partnerships form, thrive and collapse in the real world. Representatives from MSU and LUANAR will be on hand to share partnership frameworks developed by the two organizing institutions. How to build partnerships that are a) equitable, b) innovative, and c) problem-solving will be the focus for the discussion.</p>
Purpose of the Side Event	<p>The purpose of the side event is to challenge existing partnership frameworks by learning from participants how partnerships have formed, thrived and collapsed. We hope to identify new ways that institutions can work together to address the emerging challenges of the new Millennium. The focus of the workshop will be on partnerships—understanding and deconstructing the models and frameworks that currently exist, identifying the crucial elements of partnership, learning from on-the-ground partnership experiences, and innovating new ways to expand the range of effective and equitable partnerships to promote problem-oriented research, teaching, outreach, and mutual capacity building.</p>
Objectives of the side Event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To understand existing models and frameworks of partnership—overlapping themes, innovative approaches, and current gaps • To identify challenges and lessons from attendees' past experiences with building innovative, problem-solving partnerships and • To challenge partnership models to reflect real world complexities.
Approach and Methodology	<p>The session will begin with introductions and short presentations by representatives of the organizing institutions. It will then utilize a human-centered design approach to deconstruct the models presented, elicit attendees' input on their current and past experiences with partnership challenges and success, and then reconstruct models that reflect these real-world experiences.</p>
Venue and Participants	<p>The organizers expect up to 30 attendees at the side event in addition the organizers</p> <p>Venue: _____ Date & Time: _____</p>

Side Event Organizers and Contact

Michigan State University-Alliance for African Partnership; Global Center for Food Systems Innovation, and Borlaug Higher Education for Agricultural Research and Development.

Contact: Amy Jamison

Alliance for African Partnership Coordinator

Email: jamisona@msu.edu

+1-517-884-2127

Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR)

Emmanuel Kaunda, Deputy Vice Chancellor

Email: ekaunda@yahoo.com

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Linking Private Sector with African Universities in Agribusiness Innovations Plenary on Agribusiness, Innovation, and Engaging Universities with Private Sector

Concept Note

Background

The centrality of Agriculture to the development efforts in Africa was underscored in 2003 as African leaders agreed to implement continent wide the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) as a framework for development. One of the pillars of the of CAADP is on “agricultural research, technology dissemination and adoption”, which aims to achieve accelerated gains in productivity. More specifically, CAADP envisaged that achieving such accelerated productivity gains will require: (a) an enhanced rate of adoption of the most promising available technologies, to support the immediate expansion of African production through the more efficient linking of research and extension systems to producers; (b) technology delivery systems that rapidly bring innovations to farmers and agribusinesses, thereby making increased adoption possible, notably through the appropriate use of new information and communication technologies; (c) renewing the ability of agricultural research systems to efficiently and effectively generate and adapt new knowledge and technologies, including biotechnology, to Africa, which are needed to increase output and productivity while conserving the environment; and (d) mechanisms that reduce the costs and risks of adopting new technologies. In this we see the key role of universities and private sector as a pathway of adoption and scaling out of agribusiness innovations.

Universities in Africa have traditionally been structured to remain relatively isolated from the populations they serve. The labour force that the universities train (graduates) and the research they conduct has been challenged as not responding to the needs of consumers of university products and most curricula are supply rather than demand driven. Therefore, Higher education requires a much closer engagement with the private sector to enhance its significance to society and transform away from the traditional role of universities in Africa. Engagement of Higher education with the private sector will be critical for a number of reasons:

1. The private sector is increasingly the primary employer of African graduates, as employment opportunities in the public sector shrinks. Thus, future training employment opportunities should target the private sector;
2. The Private sector presents an opportunity for diversifying funding sources for higher education and strengthening its relevance including by providing greater role for experiential learning through for example, internships in student training, apprenticeship and mentorship;

	<p>3. The Youth bulge in Africa is a potential driver for economic growth in Africa, but only if graduates will have the entrepreneurial skills to harness opportunities for income generation and can drive growth. Private sector engagement will enhance universities' capacity to meet these needs; and,</p> <p>4. Private Sector brings investments, creates jobs, markets, and operates value chains.</p> <p>Universities need to be better positioned to produce graduates and conduct research that is relevant in addressing the dynamic challenges facing the agricultural sector. Specifically, there is an urgent need to create a new generation of innovation-oriented agricultural graduates that efficiently bring together agricultural research, training, commercialization, and extension. This justifies the need for linkages between universities and private sector for purpose of increased adoption, scaling out and scaling up of agribusiness innovations in Africa.</p> <p>The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) is an association of 60 African Universities who recognize the important opportunity but largely unfulfilled role that universities can play to support development in Africa. One of the RUFORUM 'modus operandi' is to strengthen agricultural development by engaging University actors along the whole value chain, including sister organizations and the private sector in mutually beneficial research and training to accelerate delivery of agricultural science-based innovations.</p>
Purpose of the plenary	The purpose of the plenary is to provide a platform for engagement of private sector and industry with African universities in the agribusiness innovations sub-sector
Objectives of the plenary	<p>The specific objectives for the plenary include;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To foster linkages between Africa Universities and the private sector and industry in agribusiness innovations, research and training 2. To provide a platform for sharing experiences and lessons on linkage between private sector, universities and policy 3. To map out pathways for enhanced private sector engagement with African Universities 4. To gather momentum and commitment of private sector, industry and African Universities to engage each other 5. Develop a mechanism for engagement of private sector with African Universities in agribusiness innovations
Approach and Methodology	The plenary session will be delivered through a panel discussion and response to questions from the plenary participants. Leading private sector actors will be invited to participate in the session. This will be followed by a panel of 10 young innovators who will show case their innovations, enterprises and business concepts and propositions.
Venue and Participants	The venue is the Century City Conference Centre, Cape Town South Africa. This plenary will bring together a diverse group of private sector players, educators, program managers, agriculture experts, policy makers, graduate students, and media.
Outputs	<p>This plenary will generate the following outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An established mechanism for strengthening partnerships and collaboration between universities, private sector institutions and policy makers for piloting • Documentation of experiences and lessons on linkage of private sector and universities • A roadmap for enhanced private sector engagement with African Universities

Contact

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM)
 P.O Box 16811 Wandegaya - Kampala, Uganda
 Tel: +256-417-713-300 (Office)
 Contact: Dr. Egeru Anthony
 E-mail: a.egeru@ruforum.org

Programme

Wednesday 19 October 2016

Session chair: Ms. Judith Francis, CTA and Member of RUFORUM International Advisory Panel

Rapporteur: Mr. Henry Massa Makuma, RUFORUM Secretariat and Prof. Godwin Mchau, University of Venda

MAIN THEME : Linking Universities With The Private Sector For Agribusiness Innovations

Time	Activity	Responsible/Speaker
0840 - 0900	Keynote Address: New Directions in Development and Assistance Partnerships	Dr. Jon Lomoy, Director General, NORAD
0900 - 0915	Plenary Discussion	
0915 - 1015	Panel: The Private Sector, Knowledge Generation and Development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Fred Robertson – Agribusiness 2. Ms. Sizwe Nxasana, Chief Executive Officer, FirstRand Ltd 3. Ms. Gloria Serobe, Executive Director, Women's Investment Portfolio Holdings (WIPHOLD) 4. Dr. Michael Jordaan, Chairperson Wines of South Africa 5. Dr. Helen Gichohi, Chief Executive Officer, Equity Group Foundation
1015 - 1040	Plenary Discussion	Session moderator
1040 - 1110	HEALTH BREAK and POSTERS/ EXHIBITIONS VIEWING (Meeting Room D and Hall way)	All

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Placing Youth at the Centre of Business Innovation and Enterprise Development in Africa

Concept Note

Background

In the next 30 year period, it will be hard to ignore Africa's centrality in global economic dimensions as Africa presents the fastest growing economies and a young and vibrant youthful population-more than 80% of the global youth population live in Africa . This coupled with a huge natural resources base as well as a rapidly growing and expanding service sector embodies Africa as the next global economic powerhouse. At the heart of Africa's growth is addressing how youth and its young population can rapidly and sustainably be brought into business innovation and active and full participation in the economic activities of the continent. This is particularly important because some 78% of the 200 million young Africans in sub-Saharan Africa region live on less than US\$2 a day, with 48% barely surviving on less US\$1 a day. Certainly Africa's 'youth bubble' is evident but the private sector growth rate is not catching up and is unable to absorb the current numbers in the age group 15 to 24 years; this will certainly become more challenging as Africa's population is set to more than double by 2050. The solution to this pattern is to pragmatically engage youth in business innovation and engaging them to actively participate in the economic activities. Doing so however requires concerted efforts in addressing a series of constraints youth face along the business innovation and enterprise creation process including, among others, limited access to financial services, lack of mentorship and limited platforms to engage at a global and regional level to leverage from those that have achieved in business and enterprise development.

Evidence emerging from within Africa indicates an engaging youthful population. For example, by 2013, close to 200,000 youth had opened savings accounts; 41% of whom being young women and girls. This action has led to a collective savings of about US\$7 million . Youth entrepreneurship therefore represents a critical component of Africa's growth and development engine. Building on this kind of momentum will accord Africa's youth the opportunity to invest in Africa and within Africa with locally available and mobilized credit. With the anticipation that by 2025 most of Africa's communication and activity engagements will be connected through the mobile technologies, it will thus eventually become easy to know the number of young Africans with business innovations and developed enterprises like we currently know the estimated number of jobless and unemployed young Africans. One of the actions towards achieving this kind of needed transition is to facilitate the youth opportunities to benefit from inclusive financial sector services through collaborative interventions with a diverse range of actors at various levels (macro, meso, and micro and client level). Secondly, training and mentorship is an important component for successful enterprise development; Africa critically lacks this as less than one in 4 Africans has indicated having received and/or having direct access to training to grow their own business. However, amidst all these, there is a glimmer of hope and success straddling over Africa; every year Forbes has been naming 30 most young promising young entrepreneurs in Africa and this number has been growing and so has been their stature of their business innovations and enterprises that are addressing real critical socio-economic problems and creating jobs.

Purpose of the Side Event

Successful business moguls in Africa reorganize the important role young African entrepreneurs can play in contributing to socio-economic transformation of their societies and nations. Tonny Elumelu recognizes this dimension and notes that "Young entrepreneurs and those they inspire are the lifeblood of Africa's rise."

	<p>Successful business moguls in Africa reorganize the important role young African entrepreneurs can play in contributing to socio-economic transformation of their societies and nations. Tonny Elumelu recognizes this dimension and notes that “Young entrepreneurs and those they inspire are the lifeblood of Africa’s rise.” True to his observation and concern, there may be few young Africans who have yet built multi-million dollars companies but there are several of them who are certainly taking action and are building considerably fast growing business enterprises in various lines including food manufacturing, engineering, technology, hospitality including tourism and other industry services. This crop of young business innovators and entrepreneurs have created jobs, they are paying taxes and are igniting an entrepreneurial spirit among their contemporaries, and are thus showing how much they can further play in the continent’s espoused renaissance and aspirations of Africa’s Agenda 2063: “The Africa We want”. Ashish Thakkar a 31 year old has for example managed to create a vibrant business franchise from humble beginnings of selling computers from his garage, to a global firm employing over 6,000 people across 19 African countries. Young Africans are certainly demonstrating that it is possible to succeed in business in Africa and they need their space in Africa’s business and they can deliver promising and profitable enterprises on the continent.</p>
Objectives of the side Event	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create a momentum for escalating youth business innovation and entrepreneurship in Africa. 2. Link young entrepreneurs with seasoned business leaders present to create a network of mentored young business leaders and entrepreneurs.
Approach and Methodology	<p>This session will be based on a plenary session presentation at three levels; firstly a Key note speech delivered during the main plenary, a presentation of young innovators and entrepreneurs and a general plenary discussion as part of pitching the session.</p>
Venue and Participants	<p>The plenary session will be held on Wednesday 19 October 2016 from 830-1315 at the main Conference venue (CCCC Hotel, Cape Town), Halls A, B & C. The session is open to all conference participants.</p>
Side Event Organizers and Contact	<p>RUFORUM Secretariat, Dr . Anthony Egeru Email: a.egeru@ruforum.org</p>

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Building Africa's Human Capital for Accelerated Rural Development
A meeting of Partners to discuss Higher Agricultural Education in Africa convened
during the RUFORUM Biennial and Fifth African Higher Education Week

"I am convinced that the social and economic transformation of the African continent will happen only when higher education, better access to health care and greater emphasis on knowledge becomes central to the development debate" President of Mauritius Ameenah Gurib-Fakim, May 2016

Concept Note

Introduction & Background

The underinvestment in higher education has been shown to constrain development in Africa contributing to high unemployment, increasing inequality and limiting economic growth. Economic migration and the exodus of both skilled and unskilled Africans is one of the results of Africa's declining relative position in the world economy with impacts both inside and outside Africa. Despite significant economic growth in Africa over the last two decades, Africa's poor actually increased by close to 100 million (World Bank, 2016) largely due to high population growth. The demographics in Africa highlight the urgency to ensure that Africa's youth can be harnessed to be more productive and drive sustainable economic growth on the Continent. Africa has close to 200 million people aged from 15-24, a number that is expected to more than double by 2050. By 2040, Africa will have the world's largest workforce, surpassing China and India. The over 600 million children born at the beginning of this Century will be entering into the workforce over the next 15 years. The higher education sector must not only expand significantly, but also transform its ability to skill this population to match evolving technology and employment demands by equipping this burgeoning number of youths on the Continent.

Available global and regional frameworks and targets make major assumptions on the availability of high-level skills. They assume that there will be the required human resources to support implementation of emerging plans that are underpinned by greater use of science, technology and innovation for accelerating sustainable and inclusive economic growth in Africa. Realising Africa's potential will require investments in skills, institutions, and infrastructure in order to capitalise on the job creation and economic growth potential that exists on the continent. Skills that enable it not only to carry out research but that also ensure the sharing, uptake, and commercialization of new technologies and approaches. Africa needs "Innovation Universities" that use new communications technologies and that combine research, teaching, social service and entrepreneurship as their core functions; and Universities that help to set the agenda, are integrated into national and regional policy institutions and work closely with stakeholders. Universities that use a shared learning approach where the communities are also the researchers and implementers working alongside faculty and students.

The past decade has shown that Africa can make changes with its strengthened economic performance across the continent. But to do this it needs to significantly increase, and then retain, its skilled human capital. The strong continent-wide growth in the higher education sector has raised further concerns related to quality and the inadequate resources to meet the expansion. However, despite the massive increase in uptake, gross enrolment ratios remain low, with only 6% of Africans enrolled in universities compared to 40% in Latin America and over 60% in OECD countries. There is thus an urgent need to invest in higher education and for higher education to transform itself to produce the quantity and quality of graduates and knowledge needed to achieve the African Union's Agenda 2063.

The Sector however, is faced with deep rooted challenges, including:

1. Low number of qualified faculty members (PhD level staff in most universities range between 20-40% of academic staffing) with the situation deteriorating given expansion of universities without parallel increase in investment (Materu, 2006) . This affects the quality of teaching and their ability to carry out research and influence policy;
2. A skills mis-match between the needs of the private sector, industry, NGO, CSO and government sectors and current university training programs;
3. Inadequate focus on education, research and outreach for sustainable and inclusive growth
4. Few of the estimated 1500 public and private universities offer graduate programs (Hayward and Ncayiyana, 2014) and research output remains alarmingly low (less than 2% of global output);
5. Inadequate opportunities for training at MSc and PhD level with even more limited exposure to field research working directly with stakeholders;
6. Weak monitoring and evaluation frameworks that do not adequately link the performance of universities to funding frameworks.
7. Inadequate systems to broaden student recruitment and lack of support to those from marginalized backgrounds

Rationale & Purpose of the Side Event

Studies have demonstrated strong benefits from investments in the higher education sector. Recent studies have shown that returns to investment in higher education are around 20%, and in Africa closer to 30% (Montenegro and Patrinos, 2013; USAID, 2014) . These are higher than returns to investments in other sectors, including to secondary and primary education. The requirement of a strong network of universities across the continent, fully integrated into the national, regional and global research and development communities, is a core component of a development agenda that is market-led and knowledge-intensive and cannot be disputed. How to sustainably achieve this goal remains unclear. Coordinated strategic investments by both development partners and national partners that build on clear lessons learnt over the past decade are critical.

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) is an association of 60 African Universities who recognize the important, but largely unfulfilled, role that universities can play to support sustainable development in Africa. One of the RUFORUM 'modus operandi' is to strengthen agricultural development by engaging University actors with primary stakeholders along the whole value chain, including sister organizations and the private sector in mutually beneficial research and training to accelerate delivery of sustainable agricultural science-based innovations. RUFORUM is committed to the transformation of higher education for greater relevance to African society and meeting the demand for high-level skills. The 60 Vice chancellors that make up RUFORUM all believe in the need to strengthen the responsiveness of African universities to the needs of stakeholders and clients, and particularly connecting universities to rural communities. Significant support has been received from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Carnegie Cooperation and other partners, towards RUFORUM's Strategic Business Plan (2015-2020) building on the lessons learnt over RUFORUM's two decades of implementation.

RUFORUM's work has demonstrated at pilot level that coordinated efforts around an African owned strategy for building university capacity for capacity building such as through the RUFORUM model can yield great returns with capacity to impact at scale. It is critical to provide opportunity for capacity building stakeholders to discuss these issues in an open and coherent way to agree on how to move the discussion on human capital development in Africa forward.

Objectives of the side Event	<p>The overall objective of the meeting is to initiate dialogue amongst a small gathering of partners who are closely involved or have an interest in supporting initiatives to address Africa's high-level skills constraints. The specific objectives of the meeting will be to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bring together a small group of invited partners attending the RUFORUM Biennial Meeting who are closely involved or have an interest in responding to the current gaps in human capital to meet the agreed targets in Africa; 2. To provide a platform for informal and open sharing of experience and lessons and ideas on the emerging landscape related to human skills development in Africa; 3. To consider priorities and constraints to sustainable and inclusive African development and the integration of universities into society for better use and retention of their high-level skills.
Approach and Methodology	<p>The meeting of partners will be held in parallel with the RUFORUM Biennial Conference in Cape Town, South Africa on the 19 October, 2016. The meeting will be jointly organized by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and The World Bank with participation from partners that have an interest in high level skills development in Africa . The meeting will be informed by a key presentation on the lessons and experiences from RUFORUM outlining some key challenges. Opportunity will be provided for partners to share their experiences and perspectives on the evolving landscape. A facilitated discussion will be held by partners to identify areas of synergy and to suggest how future actions could be better synchronised.</p>
Venue and Participants	<p>The meeting will be held at the Manhattan Suites adjacent to the Century City Conference Centre (CCCC), Cape Town, South Africa. Date & Time: Wednesday 19th October, 2016, 1430-1730</p>
Side Event Organizers and Contact	<p>The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) P.O Box 16811 Wandegaya - Kampala, Uganda Tel: +256-417-713-300 (Office) Contact: Prof. Adipala Ekwamu Executive Secretary, RUFORUM E-mail: e.adipala@ruforum.org</p>

Draft Programme

Wednesday 19 October 2016; Time 1430 - 1730		
Session chair: Mr. Leif Christoffersen (IAP, RUFORUM)		
Rapporteur: Dr. Moses Osiru, Deputy Executive Secretary, RUFORUM		
Time	Activity	Responsible
13:30 - 14:30	Lunch	Julie Aweko: special table at CCCC
15:00 - 15:20	Opening Remarks by Moderator	Leif Christoffersen
15:20 - 15:30	The RUFORUM experience and challenges facing high level skills development in Africa	Background presentation: RUFORUM
15:30 - 16:00	Partner perspectives on high level skills and strategic reforms needed	
16:00 - 17:30	Discussions	Moderators
18:00 - 21:00	Cocktail followed by dinner	Julie Aweko

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Building the Next Generation of Scientists for Africa to Deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals

A CGIAR-Universities-NARIs-RECs-Private Sector Partnership to Build Human Research Capacity to Meet the Sustainable Development Goals in Africa

Concept Note

Background

The need to enhance impact of agricultural research and development activities in Africa requires a new approach to old problems, or a 'business unusual'. Where returns to investment in Africa and other parts of the world have been shown to be significant, there has not been adequate impact on reducing poverty in the poorer parts of the world. This is mirrored in the reality that sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) is the only region in the world where per capita food production has decreased since 1970. Thus, almost 50% of the populations in SSA survive on less than one US Dollar (\$1) a day, reflecting the highest levels of poverty in the world. At the same time, there are new challenges, such as the impact of climate change on production, particularly rain-fed production; rural –urban migration and a multitude accompanying challenges; globalization; among others that need to be contended with.

Integrated Agricultural Research for Development (IAR4D) is a paradigm that has evolved in response to the poor dissemination and adoption of outputs arising from technology generation. The approach takes cognizance of the need to overhaul technology transfer mechanisms, particularly linear dissemination approaches, which did not involve clients and end-users in technology generation and adoption. It is clear that for various reasons, scientific gains from research are not being adequately captured and put to use by end-users, particularly farmers. One reason for this is the weakness in the National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) to better identify and respond directly to the challenges of small scale farmers, in a way that leads to enhanced incomes and livelihoods over time. NARS themselves are constrained by lack of skills and human resources, inadequate infrastructure and investments. Other NARS, such as Rwanda, Burundi etc. who have both recently come out of conflict, are also too small in population and funding capacity to be able to develop strong in-house capacity in the suite of areas that is required to support farmers. Regional cross country approaches could potentially provide solutions for these countries.

A recent capacity assessment (ASTI, 2011) recognized that many countries—particularly those in francophone West Africa, which are threatened by extremely fragile funding systems—face fundamental capacity and investment challenges. Overall capacity has deteriorated and many NARS employ a large proportion of BSc holders. The starting point would be to build a new 'cadre' of rural development practitioners that possess skills to enable the identification of farmer problems, to undertake on-farm research and be able to support the transfer of knowledge and skills to rural farmers while working in-situ. Knowledge needs to be generated that responds directly to the needs of smallholder farmers along the entire value chains that empowers them to enhance productivity, reduce post-harvest losses and link more effectively with markets both local, national and regional.

Universities are being challenged to recreate themselves for development relevance and to produce graduates, with capacity to respond to changing development paradigms, including emerging challenges of climate change and global warming, competition between food demands and bio-fuels, understanding and responding to market dynamics, drivers and shocks, among others.

The challenge, therefore, is how to re-tool existing human and other resources, including institutional cultures, to be able to train graduates to facilitate transformation of SSA nations. Strengthening agricultural capacity at MSc and PhD level for undertaking 'business unusual' using participatory approaches with client and market orientation is thus a much needed intervention. Universities require new partnerships, particularly with other NARS players and the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) to enhance the quality of graduate students. Such an approach would ensure that outputs could be generated immediately, while enhancing the capacity available for deployment, both within the CGIAR, NARS and development workforce.

The CGIAR, one of the larger players in the research sector in Africa, was created in the 1970s to respond to famine in the World poorest countries by providing investments in research to develop new high yielding varieties. The CGIAR works closely with national agricultural research systems (NARS) and other actors in ensuring the greater effectiveness of its work within the various countries in which it operates. Over the years it has evolved significantly, but its core mission remains primarily the same: to end hunger completely by 2030. The CGIAR can play a large role in bolstering scientific capacity within the NARS across Africa to enhance knowledge output through use of advanced tools and its utility for intended clients and partners. Such a partnership between Universities, NARS, the CGIAR, and the private sector would support the achievement of CGIAR and global objectives. For example, under the CGIAR Research Program on Dryland Cereals led by ICRISAT and ICARDA, a series of internship programs were implemented to enable graduate students to be attached to CGIAR centers and benefit from the facilities and expertise of the CGIAR and its scientists. Secondly, there is need to enhance the integration between the different players to support value chain approaches, and linkages to markets. Non-traditional players in research, such as governments, through regional economic communities, and the emerging private sector need to be engaged more systematically to enhance outcomes in the region. According to the CGIAR, 'the objectives of a renewed and expanded research effort must therefore include not merely higher yields from improved varieties and practices, but also greater emphasis on new themes such as climate-smart and nutrition-sensitive agriculture, faster adoption of new technologies, higher profitability from the small farm and food processing sectors, better opportunities for women and marginalized'.

Objectives of the side Event

The overall objective is to develop human scientific capacity of African NARS through enhanced collaboration between universities, SROs, NARS, and RECs for improved quality training of graduates that respond to the needs of farmers and national governments. Specifically, the side event will explore opportunities for development of a strategy/ mechanism for enhancing partnership between universities, NARS and the CGIAR to build human resource capacity for African NARS.

Approach and Methodology

A one day side –event will be held during the RUFORUM Biennial Conference 17-21 October, 2016 in Cape Town, South Africa. Participants will be from Universities, NARS, Sub-Regional Organisations, and the CGIAR centres with presence in Africa. The participants will represent a skills and multi-disciplinary mix from various countries covering the several African regions including representatives from various stakeholder groups (Agro-industry, Non-governmental organisations, development partners, universities, policy makers, regional agricultural networks etc.). A facilitator will be tasked to guide the meeting towards achievement of objectives subsequent to key background and informant presentations. The conference design will be outcome focused and all activities will focus on attainment of outputs. Opportunity will be provided for discussions, both in plenary and groups.

<p>Key outputs</p>	<p>The key aim of the conference is to develop a mechanism to enhance partnerships between universities and the CGIAR, NARIs, the private sector and RECs in Africa to support human scientific capacity building in Africa. Thus, the key outputs of the meeting will be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Innovative approaches and methods to strengthen human scientific capacity building for participatory technology development and transfer in Africa identified; 2. New Partnerships between RUFORUM and other Higher Education Networks, SROs and the CGIAR created; 3. RECs engagement in supporting Human capacity building in Africa; 4. A funding strategy to support internships for graduate students in CGIAR centres in Africa; 5. University training, research and outreach programs selected to enhance collaboration between CGIAR and NARS partners.
<p>The Conference Convener</p>	<p>The meeting and the overall Biennial Conference will be convened by RUFORUM. RUFORUM has a wealth of experience in management of projects and related events and is well placed to manage this Conference. RUFORUM is a consortium of 60 universities in Africa. RUFORUM will bring to the partnership its experience in facilitating staff and student mobility in the region, including supporting universities in the region to mobilize funding for mobility of over 500 postgraduate students through the European Union Intra-ACP and other funding windows, particularly for universities with weak academic programs. RUFORUM has supported creation and nurturing of over 10 regional graduate programs and the training of over 370 PhD and 1,700 MSc students. RUFORUM has experience in strengthening grassroots orientation and inter-disciplinarity of university research and training and linking African Universities to policy.</p>
<p>Venue and Participants</p>	<p>Venue: Century City Conference Centre, Hall A, Cape Town, South Africa Date & Time: Wednesday 19 October, 2016, 1430-1730</p>
<p>Side Event Organizer and Contact</p>	<p>The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) P.O Box 16811 Wandegaya - Kampala, Uganda Tel: +256-417-713-300 (Office) Dr. Moses Osiru, Deputy Executive Secretary Email: m.osiru@ruforum.org</p>

Side Event Programme

Time	Activity	Responsible
09:00 - 09:10	Welcome Remarks	Dr. Shadrack S. Moephuli, CEO & President, Agricultural Research Council (ARC), South Africa
09:10 - 09:30	Introductions and meeting objectives	Facilitator
09:30 - 09:45	Opening Remarks	Dr. David Bergvinson, Director General, ICRISAT
09:45 - 10:00	Opening Speech	TBI
10:00 - 10:20	Keynote Presentation: Building sustainable human research capacity in Africa: recent trends and approaches	Speaker To be identified: 1. GFAR 2. CGIAR Secretariat 3. African Capacity Building Foundation 4. AGRINATURA
10:20 - 10:30	Discussions	
10:30 - 11:00	Health Break	Facilitator
11:00 - 12:30	Group activity: Opportunities for building capacity in Africa 1. Funding options 2. Local, national, regional and international frameworks for human, scientific capacity building 3. CGIAR 4. Training models	All participants
12:30 - 13:00	Group presentations	
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 - 14:20	Possible roles for Regional Economic Communities in strengthening scientific capacity building in Africa	RECS
14:20 - 14:30	Discussions	
14:30 - 15:30	Discussions on capacity building	All participants
15:30 - 16:00	Health Break	
16:00 - 16:10	Remarks by RUFORUM	TBD
16:10 - 16:20	Closing Remarks	Head Capacity Building, ILRI
16:20 - 16:30	Closing Remarks	One of the VCs

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

FoodAfrica II WP7 Training Sessions on Linking Research to Business

Concept Note

Background & Introduction

Biosciences research and innovation landscape in Africa is wide and diversified with an objective of enhancing agricultural productivity, to strengthen technological development and adaptability to ecological changes. Amongst these valuable efforts, however, it is not always recognized that the research and science produce more opportunities for development than the pure results. Already the research process is valuable in itself when it is done in cooperation with various stakeholders. When correctly supported, the process itself can provide ideas and open possibilities for innovations as well as lead to new avenues for development. Therefore the research process should be very open, participatory and discursive. In a cooperative research process the partners and various stakeholders are able to pick the “low-hanging” fruits of the process immediately.

On the other hand, validation of the research results happens not only through the science community but also through the adaption of the results in real life. Some results can provide opportunity to be directly put into changed practices, for example certain technology innovations. However, a large number of results require development of new methodologies or technologies, before being transformed into new products. To utilize all these opportunities, it is crucial to link the private sector and entrepreneurship community with researchers, for the successful utilization of the research findings.

To date this potential is underutilized and consequently, despite relatively significant research and science investment in Africa, the impacts and practical applications drawn from the results and the process remain fragmented, scattered and only partly fulfilling the requirements of cost-efficiency. This emphasizes the need to develop appropriate and coordinated ways of better utilizing research results and research process findings to provide business incentives for all possible stakeholders. There is also a need for a shift from viewing research as the main actor of the bio-innovation ecosystem, to focusing on end-users of knowledge as central actors of the adaptation process.

Bioscience and Research Landscape in Africa for Development and Growth

Africa is considered the world's fastest growing region. While the economies are in transition to middle-income nations, the key to development in many countries is linked to increased agricultural productivity accompanied by a shift from primary production to value addition. New structures and work methods will be required to utilize the knowledge of scientific research in supporting these processes. When utilized innovatively bioresearch can be a powerful engine for increasing food production, and for developing a wide range of agro-industrial and value added products with potential applications in many sectors.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as well as Africa's Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action (CPA), Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) and New Economic Partnership for African Development (NEPAD) all prioritize inclusive growth; science, technology and innovation; people centered development and financing and partnership. However, progress towards realizing these objectives has been slow. One reason for this is that the critical role of private sector has not been adequately recognized in the research process. More generally the information flow in the science and research process is not serving the research stakeholder networks in effective ways.

The numerous players in the agricultural bioscience arena are all making good contributions at national, regional and international level, but at the same time the transformation and adaptation of research findings could be more effective with more intense knowledge transfer from science to the stakeholder network. Especially the potential of private sector, entrepreneurs and education sector with agribusiness incubation are not fully utilized even though they are among the most critical actors in turning the research outputs into impactful outcomes.

Entrepreneurship and innovation are both among the key pathways to economic and social wealth and prosperity of the societies. Educational institutions are strategically located to promote both of these. Education can act as bridging link that increases entrepreneurial understanding of the bio-resource landscape and in the production of graduates with entrepreneurial competencies. This can lead to the utilization of the untapped business opportunities of the sector. Business incubation is one of the ways that higher education institutions have used to encourage students into entrepreneurship thinking. The training session discusses bio-resource based business incubation and the role of teachers and mentors and the requisite ecosystem needed to bolster the intra and extra curricula business incubation. The training also discusses the pathways that need consideration in the mapping and framing of the knowledge and learning environment within the incubation process.

FoodAfrica Programme leading the way in Linking research to Business

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland (MFA) has support a 5 year Programme called FoodAfrica (https://portal.mtt.fi/portal/page/portal/mtt_en/projects/foodafrica) which is a research and development Programme enhancing food security in West and East Africa. The objective of the Programme is to provide new knowledge and tools for researchers, decision makers and local farmers to improve local food security. The FoodAfrica Programme has been implemented in six countries: Benin, Ghana, Cameroon, Kenya, Senegal, and Uganda. The current phase of FoodAfrica ended in June 2016, resulting in a large amount of research results central to improving food security and nutrition from a range of different perspectives. The end users of the results will range from policy makers to development organizations and local NGO and extension organization, to researcher and education institutions to farm organizations as well as individual farmers themselves. A final important category will be the agribusiness community. The second phase of FoodAfrica is a two-year programme focusing on communicating and disseminating the results of the first phase to all these different user groups. As part of its objective, FoodAfrica II will emphasize the importance and challenges relating to knowledge transfer and the central role of cooperation between the different stakeholders of the research process, in order to achieve sustainable utilization of the research findings. One way of doing this is through building links between the research and the entrepreneurship community, and by contributing to the discourse on how a transparent research process best can serve the development objectives. Special emphasis is put on linking the private community to the research process to find ways to facilitate research based entrepreneurship building.

Theory and Practice in Linking research to Business - training session

As part of FoodAfrica II we are planning a training concept that can be brought to different conferences and events, which focuses on innovative ways to link research results to new business ideas, through local business incubators and incubation networks. The goal of the training is to give students and potential start-ups in the agribusiness sector tools and ideas for turning research results into products through participatory research and innovative business concepts. For the education sector the workshop showcases an innovative way of stimulating the thinking process of potential entrepreneurs in utilizing the research process in entrepreneurship development and setting up learning environment to support sustainable learning results.

	<p>For the research community the session highlights the potential of partnership based research processes in increasing, initiating and intensifying the research and research process for sustainable utilization, transformation and integration for growth and development. For entrepreneurs in the agribusiness sector, the session offers a hand-on introduction into the world of research results and how they can benefit from making use of these results in an innovative way.</p> <p>The training is envisioned as an approximately three hour session with fifty participants, including theory, practical examples as well as exercises. The first part is focused on theory around innovation processes from a pedagogic and higher education perspective. Then practical examples of research results from the FoodAfrica Programme will be presented and groups work sessions to brainstorm around these results will be facilitated. Real life agribusiness incubation processes will then be presented as well as successful case-examples.</p> <p>We will offer such a session during the RUFORUM Biennial Conference. Our session is very much in line with the first specific objective of the conference, to “Identify appropriate models and approaches to strengthen engagement between the private sector, policy and Higher Education Institutions“. Our work will specifically be related to the conference theme on Public private partnership: a driver for higher education for market pathways and product uptake. Our goal is to support students (and teachers) to find new ways to identify business opportunities through new research and using research results in innovative ways.</p>
<p>Specific objectives of the training session</p>	<p>The objective of the training session is to create understanding and to encourage discussion on how research results and research process can be utilized as a resource in agri-value chain development. The session will also provide information and inspiration on the existing agribusiness development mechanisms.</p> <p>The purpose of the training session Linking research to Business is to showcase and promote bioresearch innovation systems for sustainable utilization and integration of research into socio-economic development process. Strong and well-structured cooperation between research and education as well as private sector will stimulate the innovation culture through academia-industry-education collaboration which in turn promotes research. The cooperation enhances technology transfer and creates adaption models or technological innovations by allowing every partner to use their best knowledge, aspiration and resources to stimulate sustainable transformation, utilization and productivity of the existing knowledge and resources.</p>
<p>Approach and Methodology</p>	<p>The half day (3 hours) session will combine theory and practice of research based business incubation. The concepts and theory of network-based support for students entrepreneurial understanding and entrepreneurship building will be presented by Dr Eija Laitinen from the HAMK University of Applied Sciences, Finland. To connect this theory to practice FoodAfrica Programme Manager, Ms Mila Sell will present FoodAfrica research results as examples that can offer entrepreneurial possibilities . During the group work and discussion the participants are invited to develop business ideas based on the research findings presented.</p> <p>The programme will continue, by presenting actual examples of AAIN supported agribusinesses and how these can be developed by AAIN Board Member, CEO of Timbali, Ms Louise de Klerk, a South African incubator engaged to horticultural business development. Finally Dr Alex Ariho, AAIN CEO will highlight the AAIN methodology in Agribusiness Incubation support, and Technology Commercialization and how new innovative start-ups can tap into this process.</p>

Expected outcomes	<p>It is expected that through this training session, participants will have improved understanding on how research results and the entire research process can be a source of knowledge and inspiration to entrepreneurship. Secondly, participants will be equipped with concrete results of FoodAfrica research programme to be used in possible entrepreneurial activities. Thirdly, participants will be equipped with knowledge on how African wide Agribusiness Incubation Network (AAIN) can support incubates and institutions interested in establishing and/or improving their agribusiness incubation processes.</p>
Venue and Participants	<p>The session is a cooperation between Natural Resource Institute Finland (Luke), coordinating FoodAfrica I and II Programmes, Häme University of Applied Sciences (HAMK), a partner in FoodAfrica I and II Programmes and African Agribusiness Incubation Network (AAIN). Luke is a research and expert organisation that works to advance the bioeconomy and the sustainable use of natural resources. HAMK has up-to date modern knowledge and experience on how to integrate research and business development. AAIN is a continental network of institutions working on agribusiness incubation spanning 54 countries. AAIN has set up incubators in 7 African countries and works with research institutions across Africa (4 Sub-Regional Organisations (SROs), Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) and ICRISAT among other partners) who develop technologies and innovations. AAIN off-takes the innovations and technologies for commercialization and has so far managed to profile and commercialize over 110 technologies.</p> <p>Venue: Century City Conference Centre, Meeting Room 7 Date & Time: Wednesday 19th October 2016, from 1430-1730</p>
Side Event Organizers and Contact	<p>Häme University of Applied Sciences (HAMK), Finland Natural Resource Center (Luke), Finland African Agribusiness Incubation Network (AAIN), Ghana Dr Eija Laitinen, HAMK Email eija.laitinen@hamk.fi Tel. +358 50 5853933 Ms Mila Sell, Luke Email mila.sell@luke.fi Tel. +358 29 5326737</p>

Side Event Programme

Time Allocation	Activity	Responsible
10 min	Introductions - Welcome and Objectives of the session	Luke/Mila Sell
30 min	Theory: From Research to Practice & Business	HAMK/Dr Eija Laitinen
20 min	What research results can a programme like FoodAfrica provide us?	Luke/Mila Sell
75 min	Group work + reporting	Luke/Mila Sell & HAMK/Dr Eija Laitinen
20 min	Research & Entrepreneurship for Jobs and Wealth - Practical Examples	AAIN/Louise de Klerk
15 min	AAIN Support for agribusiness incubation	AAIN/Dr Alex Ariho/ MaryNjeri
10 min	Summary Discussion	Luke/Mila Sell

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Reflections and Dialogue on Uganda's Higher Education System

A meeting between Uganda Vice Chancellors and the Minister of Higher Education, Uganda

Concept Note

Background

Like in many other African countries, the higher education sector in Uganda is undergoing major transformation to cope with increasing demand and attempts to re-align the sector to be more responsive to national development agenda in Uganda. Uganda's overall strategy is guided by the recently developed and approved National Development Plan (2015-2020). The NDP aims to Strengthen Uganda's Competitiveness for Sustainable Wealth Creation, Employment and Inclusive Growth. More broadly, Uganda Vision 2040 highlights overall targets for the country's long term development. Education, and more specifically higher education is seen as a central pillar to the realization of Uganda's Vision 2040 in a knowledge economy. Further, emerging trends such as globalization, urbanization, liberalization and climate change all will require continual refocus of the higher education sector to ensure that it churns out relevant products (human resource, knowledge generation, service to community) to Uganda's context in the society.

Uganda's higher education sub-sector has expanded massively over the last two decades with regards to numbers and diversity of institutions, student enrollment and also the number of accredited programs. From one public university, Uganda today has 37 universities most of which are private (30 of the 37 universities are private). The growth in private universities has required that the government's role in the higher education sector is broadened and more emphasis placed on policy support and quality assurance. Similarly, student numbers (enrollment) expanded significantly by 24% from 201,376 in 2013 to 249,049 in 2014. The high increase is attributed to policies that call for liberalization of the sector, expansion of access to equitable and quality Education at all levels, as well as enhanced efficiency and effectiveness in Higher education service delivery. Universal Primary Education (UPE) and University Secondary Education (USE) policies ensure an expanding pipeline for universities to accommodate and educate.

Recognizing the challenge, the Uganda Government continues to invest in the higher education sector to enhance higher education delivery in the country. One such initiative, is the African Higher Education Centers of Excellence (ACE) Phase 2 Project which is coordinated by the World Bank together with the Interuniversity Council for East Africa. The Project aims to support the selected Eastern and Southern African higher education institutions to deliver quality post-graduate education and build collaborative research capacity in the regional priority areas. A total of 24 project were selected in the region with four within Uganda. The project will respond to gaps in number of skilled professionals with specialized knowledge who can innovate and boost productivity in key areas related to Industry, agriculture, health, education and applied statistics. The ACE II Project responds at micro level to an important challenge and highlights an important need to engage in projects that enhance Uganda's regional leadership in higher education, as it was in the 60's. How to expand the ACE model to support growth in the sector is an issue that requires further deliberation.

Similarly, the growth in universities from 1 to 37 has, unfortunately, not been followed by a similar increase in the number of qualified professionals to staff the universities. As such, universities have a shortages of PhD qualified staff. Currently, many institutions are operation at less than 50% of the staff establishment, which has important ramifications on the delivery of education and research output.

	<p>At that same time, a number of staff are retiring, further reducing available staff capacity. Urgent efforts need to be put in place to enhance staff capacity while ensuring a longer term plan for ensuring a pipeline of professionals for the institutions.</p>
<p>Purpose and Rationale of the Side Event</p>	<p>Management of higher education institutions is a challenging task, as it requires a firm grip on enhanced knowledge generation through creation of postgraduate and related research programs, improving content and delivery of knowledge and enhancing impact on communities, while at the same time handling large institutions with often inadequate funding. There is thus need to define platforms for continuous engagement between university leaders and education policy makers in Uganda to enhance sharing of lessons across University vice chancellors, but also with the Ministry of Education at the highest level through the Minister responsible for Higher Education.</p> <p>The Fifth RUFORUM Biennial Conference and Higher Education Week will be held in Cape Town from 14-22 October, 2016. The meeting will bring together key higher education stakeholders including graduate students, vice chancellors, policy makers, private sector practitioners and Non-governmental organizations among others. The aim of the meeting is to provide a platform for dialogue across multi-stakeholder groups with objective to improve higher education in Africa by responding to key challenges and learning from northern and other partners. At this year's (October, 2016) meeting, there will be a large group of Ugandan vice chancellors attending, as will be policy makers from Uganda. It thus provides an opportunity for engagement for discussion on issue pertinent to Uganda's higher education.</p>
<p>Objectives of the side Event</p>	<p>The overall aim of the side meeting at the RUFORUM Biennial is to provide a platform for dialogue between Vice Chancellors of Ugandan public and private universities to discuss higher education issues and engage with Uganda's Minister responsible for Higher Education.</p>
<p>Approach and Methodology</p>	<p>A 2 hour meeting will be organized at the RUFORUM Biennial Conference as a side event. The Minister for Higher Education, Uganda will meet with Uganda Vice Chancellors of Public and Private universities to dialogue on higher education issues relevant for Uganda. The meeting will be largely informal and will begin by a Statement from the Minister of Higher Education and subsequently, opportunity for the Vice Chancellors to update the Minister on their university operations, including key successes, challenges and issues. A briefing on efforts being made to respond to the Uganda Secretary to Treasury for Project proposals to advance selected efforts in the higher education sector will be presented for discussion. The meeting will be closed by a statement from the Minister of Higher Education.</p>
<p>Venue and Participants</p>	<p>Venue: Century City Conference Centre, Meeting Room 6 Date & Time: 19th October 2016 from 1415-1630hrs.</p>
<p>Side Event Organizers and Contact</p>	<p>The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) P.O Box 16811 Wandegaya - Kampala, Uganda Tel: +256-417-713-300 (Office) Contact: Prof. Adipala Ekwamu Executive Secretary, RUFORUM E-mail: e.adipala@ruforum.org</p>

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

NEPAD SANBio Parallel Session: Innovating Sustainable Partnerships in Nutrition

Concept Note

Background

The Southern Africa Network for Biosciences (SANBio) is a NEPAD Agency Flagship for collaborative research, development and an innovation platform aimed at addressing Southern Africa's challenges in health and nutrition. It is one of the five Networks under the Consolidated Plan of Action for Science and Technology (African Biosciences Initiative) and was officially launched in August 2005. The NEPAD SANBio Network was reconfigured in response to the four Pillars and six Priority Areas of the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA-2024), a 10-year strategy which is part of the long-term African Union Agenda 2063. The STISA-2024 envisages the accelerated transition of largely commodity-based African economies to innovation-led, knowledge-based economies. Such economies should be underpinned by robust science, technology and innovation (STI) systems.

In line with STISA-2024, the SANBio Flagship and its supporting programmes are implemented on a regional multi-country basis outlined in the SANBio Business Plan. The Network is comprised of 12 of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Member States and operates on a Regional Hub (The CSIR in South Africa) and Country Nodes model. The current SANBio Member States are Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Lesotho, South Africa, Seychelles, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The role of science in societal development and improvement of people's lives is largely uncontested. There is no doubt that millions of people have access to basic needs of life, vaccinations have saved lives, travelling and communication has become faster and cheaper, the rights for disadvantaged community members have largely been upheld, child mortality has relatively declined and the life expectancy has doubled (www.humanprogres.org). Having said that, in other parts of the world, inequality still exists and malnutrition is still a major challenge. Large knowledge stocks have been generated and archived but some countries have not managed to translate knowledge into usable products. The current model of R&D to Innovation has predominantly been expensive and sometimes non-responsive to current needs in society especially in the life sciences. As part of the new dispensation in putting STI into other policies and using strong science to support policy, the continent needs to innovate on new partnerships for innovation, where multidisciplines converge to address specific problems and new models of institutions for coordinating STI policies are tested. According to the SPRU the new framework of Innovation policy has to include rapid experimentation (testing of solutions) and scale-up of technologies and constructive technology assessment where there is strong participation of the beneficiaries. Technologies that do not meet the mark need to be quickly retired and resources use to beneficial interventions.

It is in the above context that NEPAD SANBio is convening this platform for dialogue to share ideas on novel partnerships for advancing technology scaling-up, funding thereof and models of coordinating the research in the sub-continent.

Objectives of the sessions

1. Highlight the role of partnerships in scaling-up agriculture technologies
2. Discuss possible funding models for Research for Development Innovation in the agriculture sector
3. Share experiences on the future of STI partnership between Academia, Industry and government

Approach and Methodology	The side event will involve lead paper presentations, panel discussion and group discussion sessions facilitated by a moderator. SANBio will also have an exhibition to profile its activities.
Venue and Participants	Venue: Century City Conference Centre, Meeting Room 9 Date & Time: Wednesday 19th October 2016
Side Event Organizers and Contact	The Southern Africa Network for Biosciences (SANBio) Contact: Dr Ereck Chakauya Email: Echakauya@csir.co.za

Proposed Key speakers

Facilitator	Dr Ereck Chakauya (NEPAD SANBio Network Manager)
Opening speech	NEPAD ISTIH representative (Dr Tichaona Mangwende)– Role of STI in development
	Prof Linus Opara (Stellenbosch University) - Value-addition and Post-harvest innovations
	Ms Zvikomborero Tangawamira - Approaches to funding Bio-Innovations- SANBio/BioFISA experience
	Prof Emmanuel Kaunda - Innovation in fisheries: Case of NEPAD Fish Node
	Appolinaire Djikeng (BecA Hub) - Demand-driven Innovations: Biolnnovate
	Towards supporting Bionnovations in informal sector (speaker to be identified)

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Regional Meeting of African Experts

Meeting of African Technical Experts to identify key issues for dialogue by African Ministers on Strengthening Higher Education in Africa

Concept Note

Background	<p>The strong need for context specific innovations and technologies in Africa to support increased competitiveness of African value added products in the global market is now clearly recognised (Beintema & Elliot, 2016). Africa needs to move beyond mere adaptation of existing technologies, towards greater knowledge generation and application of science and technology (S&T) in support of economic growth and development. Over the last decade (2000-2010) a spurt in gross domestic product (GDP) growth in Africa (averaging close to 5% across the continent) has been shown to have resulted from growth in a few sectors, such as the mobile telephony and the banking sectors. Key sectors that would facilitate inclusive growth such as the agricultural sector have shown slow, if any. Growth has come from expanding land under production, rather than benefits from technology and improved practice. Thus, the needs for skills at all levels needs to be urgently redressed, including at its source: the need for higher education systems in Africa to target critical needed skills in relevant industry demanded areas.</p> <p>Inability to act now will have far reaching consequences. Within 25 years, Africa will have over 600 million people entering the workforce. Without adequate skills and engagement, this energetic group will place their energy and labour towards activities that could negative impact on growth and development.</p>
------------	--

It is the role of the higher education sector to support these 'youth' to realise their potential within the formal and informal workforce in Africa through the inculcation of skills, knowledge and attitudes and empowerment of this cadre to support Africa's growth.

Currently only 6% of Africa's youth are enrolled in universities relative to over 60% in OECD countries and a global average of 26%. This low enrolment rate and quality challenges within the higher education sector are limiting Africa's ability to harness its young workforce. However, these figures present already high growth with the higher education due to the low starting point.

Nonetheless, there is evidence that investment in higher education pays. A recent study by AAI (2015) estimated that a one-year increase in average tertiary education levels would raise annual GDP growth in Africa by 0.39 percentage points, and eventually yield up to a 12 percent increase in GDP. Montenegro and Patrinos (2013) reversed their earlier findings to confirm that indeed returns to higher education would have greater returns than secondary and primary education in Africa, a finding that has now been reconfirmed (World Bank, 2015; USAID, 2014).

Africa needs a strong higher education sector with strong "Innovation Universities" that use new communications technologies and that combine research, teaching, societal service, and commercialization as their core functions. Universities that will be integrated into national and regional policy institutions; and Universities that are anchor institutions which help to set the agenda and will infuse knowledge into collaborations with producers, consumers, communities, businesses, development and service providers and local and national governments.

The Higher Education Sector however, is faced with deep rooted challenges, including:

1. Pressure on the limited high-level skills so necessary for universities to fulfil their teaching, research, innovation and societal roles;
2. Inadequate frameworks to enable governments to leverage the high-level skills that do exist in universities and develop them as anchor institutions for policy and development;
3. A skills mismatch between current university programs and the needs of the private sector, industry, NGO, CSO and government sectors ;
4. Insufficient post-graduate programs essential both to expand higher education access and contribute to innovation and development.
5. African research output remains alarmingly low (less than 2% of global output);
6. Insufficient opportunity to engage and share skills and research across the continent

The Role of RUFORUM

RUFORUM is an Africa wide platform that works to 'strengthen the capacities of Universities to foster innovations responsive to the demands of smallholder farmers and value chains through the training of high quality researchers, the output of impact-oriented research, and the maintenance of collaborative working relations among researchers, farmers, market actors, national agricultural research and advocacy institutions, and governments'. The RUFORUM Vice Chancellors platform brings together Vice Chancellors of African universities committed to working collaboratively to transform Africa's higher education sector for greater relevance to African society and meeting the demand for high-level skills. The 60 Vice chancellors that make up RUFORUM all believe in the need to strengthen the responsiveness of African universities to the needs for transformation and to the provision of high quality, inclusive and relevant human resources, research and societal engagement.

Purpose and Rationale of the meeting

The Road thus far

There have been some progress in redefining policy in Africa to strengthen higher education in the continent. Most recently, the 26th Session of the African Union Heads of State and Government in January 2016 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia adopted the Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA 2016-2025). CESA has been developed to support the creation of a transformative education and training system in Africa and will support overall the response to the Sustainable Development Goal Four.

At a Conference for Higher Education in Africa in Uganda (2010) organized by RUFORUM and CTA (Technical Centre for Agriculture and Rural Cooperation), the World Bank and FARA (Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa), twenty (20) Ministers of Education, Agriculture, related sciences and Finance, committed their governments among other things to greater “emphasis by African governments on restoring the quality of higher education in agriculture. This will require special focus on higher degree training to produce the required capacity for delivering high quality teaching and learning experiences at African universities and colleges”. The recognition of the importance of investing in Higher Education has gathered momentum with a number of special events at the African Union and these outcomes were articulated in the Continental Education Strategy for Africa 2016-2025 with greater emphasis on the importance of Tertiary Education and research.

The African Higher Education Summit in Dakar, Senegal held in March 2015 concluded that it is essential to “develop a high quality, massive, vibrant, diverse, differentiated, innovative, autonomous and socially responsible higher education sector that will be a driving force to achieving the vision outlined in Agenda 2063”. The need to take urgent action to strengthen the higher education sector to underpin the use of science, technology and innovation for Africa’s transformation was emphasized at a side event at the UN in New York (September 2015) Chaired by HE Prof. Arthur Peter Mutharika, the President of Malawi and this was then reaffirmed in Lilongwe, Malawi in October 2015, when twelve (12) African Ministers of Higher Education, Science and Technology agreed that it is important to produce “liberally educated, scientifically literate and professionally prepared, creative and entrepreneurial graduates with integrity and ethical human values”. They committed that to achieve this they would support “building capacity and pursuing excellence in Research, Science, Technology, and Innovation in teaching and learning, research and scholarship, and public service”. They also recommended advocacy for a continental commitment and strategy to strengthen higher education in Africa. At the African Union level the Heads of State agreed to create a Committee of Ten Heads of State to Champion Education, Science and Technology development in Africa, as a fulcrum for achieving Africa Vision Agenda 2063.

These efforts are complemented by a number of international initiatives including the recently established Commission for Financing Global Education Opportunities co-convened by President Arthur Peter Mutharika of Malawi, Prime Minister Erna Solberg of Norway, President Michelle Bachelet of Chile, President Joko Widodo of Indonesia, and the Director-General of UNESCO Irina Bokova. The Going Global Conference on Higher Education held in Cape Town, May 2016 stressed “how higher education can play a role in positive social and economic change” and noted that Africa must respond to the education, knowledge and communications revolutions and mobilise knowledge and science as major drivers of growth.

Objectives of the Meeting

The overall objective is the meeting of technical experts will be to dialogue on how African governments can strengthen the higher education sector in Africa to ensure transformative, high quality and accessible higher education in Africa that contributes to economic growth and inclusive, sustainable development.

	<p>The specific objectives of the meeting will be to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss key challenges and issues constraining the transformation of higher education in Africa 2. Highlight key options, mechanisms and strategies for improving higher education in Africa 3. Agree on key issues related to Higher Education, Science and Technology that require high level policy support by African Ministers as well as Heads of State and Government to consider for adoption at the January-February 2017 African Union Heads of State and Government Summit. 4. Agree on a draft declaration to table before the Committee of Ten Heads of State championing higher education in Africa and proposed meeting in November 2016 in Malawi to discuss ways of operationalizing agreed actions.
Approach and Methodology	<p>The meeting of Ministers and university representatives will be held at the RUFORUM Biennial Conference in Cape Town, South Africa on the 20th October, 2016 prior to the Ministerial Meeting on 21 October, 2016. The meeting will be informed by a key presentation on the steps taken so far in the high-level dialogue and a presentation of the highlights from the Biennial.</p> <p>Technical persons from the following countries have been invited to participate;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. South Africa: Ministry of Higher Education 2. Malawi Ministry of Education, Science and Technology 3. Egypt: Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology 4. Senegal: Ministry Higher Education, Science and Technology 5. Kenya: Ministry of Education 6. Uganda: Ministry of Education and Sports 7. Sudan: Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
Venue and Participants	<p>Venue: Manhattan Suites, Cape Town, South Africa. Date: Thursday 20 October, 2016 Time: 1115-1300hrs</p>
Side Event Organizers and Contact	<p>The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) P.O Box 16811 Wandegeya - Kampala, Uganda Tel: +256-417-713-300 (Office) Professor Adipala Ekwamu, Executive Secretary Email: e.adipala@ruforum.org</p>

References

- Africa-America Institute, State of Education in Africa 2015 www.aaionline.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/AAI-SOE-report-2015-final.pdf
- Hayward, F.M. and D.J. Ncayiyana, 2014 “ Confronting the Challenges of Graduate Education in Sub-Saharan Africa” International Journal of African Higher Education <http://www.inhea.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Hayward-Ncayiyana-Graduate-Education.pdf>
- Materu, Peter, 2006 “Higher Education Quality Assurance in Sub-Saharan Africa” World Bank Working Paper 124, Washington DC
- Montenegro, Claudius and H.A. Patrinos, 2013 Returns to Schooling around the World, World Bank <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2014/09/20173085/comparable-estimates-returns-schooling-around-world>
- USAID, 2014 African higher education: opportunities for transformative change for sustainable development, APLU <http://www.aplu.org/projects-and-initiatives/international-programs/knowledge-center-for-advancing-development-through-higher-education/knowledge-center-library/executive-summary-african-higher-education-opportunities-for-transformative-change-for-sustainable-development/file>

Annex 1: Key issues for discussion by the Technical Experts, 20 October, 2016, Cape Town, South Africa

1. In light of the high population growth rate in Africa, including likely growth the employment sector by over 600 million in the next 20 years, need to expand access to and transform Africa's higher education to train and skill its young and rapidly growing population to respond to the needs for Africa's inclusive development;
2. Need to increase investments in higher education in Africa, including diversification of funding through cost sharing as a means of transforming the higher education sector. Funding should be used to:
 - facilitate development, promote stability, and enhance access and equity through funding and provision of infrastructure;
 - provide ICTs as a tool for learning and continued lifelong engagement;
 - expand postgraduate and post-doctoral training; and,
 - attract, develop and retain excellent academic and technical staff to pursue relevant and provide high-quality research and teaching;
3. Need to improve equitable access to Higher Education across socio-economic quintiles and across gender;
4. Promote postgraduate research through partnerships: south-south, north-south and triangular initiatives. These could be through regional collaborations in Africa to allow centers of excellence to emerge and promote aggregation of resources to enhance quality. Building on RUFORUM's centers of leadership approach and of the on-going Phase Two Program of the African Higher Education Centers of Excellence for Eastern, Central and Southern Africa. There is need to enhance the initiative.
5. The African Union Commission, to put in place mechanisms to improve the movement of staff and students to various African institutions, across the continent. Mobility can be enhanced by providing an enabling environment, reduce the challenges to inter-country mobility.
6. Commit to building capacity and pursuing excellence in Research, Science, Technology, and Innovation in teaching and learning, research and scholarship, and public service for:
 - provision of solutions to the development challenges and opportunities facing African peoples across the continent;
 - pursuing national development through business, higher education and graduate employability.
7. Accelerate the harmonisation and adoption of 'qualifications' accreditation frameworks and ranking system at national and regional levels for the achievement of greater compatibility and comparability, increasing the international competitiveness of the African institutions of higher education, and assuring the quality of educational provision against agreed benchmarks of excellence.
8. Deepen the processes of political and economic integration and provide funding to facilitate mobility for academic and knowledge exchange allowing people to study, train, and work or volunteer abroad, encourage networking, and increase diversity of experience in teaching and research.
9. Ensure trans-disciplinarity scholarship to produce "liberally educated, scientifically literate and professionally prepared, creative and entrepreneurial graduates with integrity and ethical human values".
10. Intensify cooperation within African institutions, with our development partners, and domestic and foreign private investors to align incoming funds and initiatives to support Africa's efforts to assume STI competencies and ownership for solving its own problems.

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Strengthening the Engagement of RUFORUM Alumni to support Post-Graduate Training in Africa Launch of the RUFORUM Alumni Network

Concept Note

Background

Alumni Networks play a significant role in advancing the goals and objectives of an institution. Specifically Alumni are advocates for and support linkages between the parent institution and the outside world. Alumni can also provide important feedback on the current trends and market demands in the area of focus of the parent institution and advice on the necessary re-orientations and interventions to address emerging challenges so that the parent institution remains relevant to its customers. With this in mind, RUFORUM is keen to find means of engaging with former students that have been supported by RUFORUM. RUFORUM has since its establishment and during the 10 year period of its predecessor, the Forum on Agricultural Resource Husbandry, has supported over 1500 postgraduate students (Masters and PhD). A recent survey by RUFORUM (2014) indicated that most of these students (95%) were living and working within the Continent and majority had been employed within six months of graduation. The Tracer study (RUFORUM, 2014) also confirmed that graduates (RUFORUM Alumni) were working largely at Universities and research institutions but also with the private sector, non-government and policy institutions and others have started their own businesses across Africa. The wide experience of Alumni would bring important benefits to RUFORUM's work.

The recently approved RUFORUM Strategic Business Plan (2015-2020) highlights the evolving trends on the continent and the opportunities that RUFORUM could exploit to enhance achievement of its mission and vision. The Secretariat envisages a stronger program, backed by strong engagement between current students and the former RUFORUM supported students who not only would strengthen mentorship of young scientists but improve the transition from studies to workplace environment for students. Because they understand RUFORUM, they are in good position to be engaged by the Network.

Discussions with selected Alumni also highlighted their own eagerness to participate in RUFORUM programs and how they might be able to support current programs, in light of benefits that they received through the program. With this in mind, discussions were pursued to identify how a platform for former RUFORUM students might be created and structured to continually support RUFORUM current students, the overall RUFORUM program and enhance Post -graduate training in Africa. A formal mechanism/ platform for their participation is proposed in the RUFORUM Alumni Network (RAN).

As initial steps to establishment of the RAN, an online consultation was done among the Alumni where suggestions were made by Alumni on how to initiate the alumni platform. The Alumni recognize the important need to strengthen the linkages between universities with research institutions, industry and farmers who are the ultimate consumers of knowledge. With this background, it was agreed that the Alumni with support from the Secretariat organize a side event at the Fifth RUFORUM Biennial Conference and African Higher Education Week to explore models of operation and officially launch the RAN.

Objectives of the side Event	Specifically, the side-event objectives are to; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss/ dialogue on how Alumni can engage in RUFORUM agenda and in supporting current postgraduate students; 2. Discuss the naming, objectives, arrangements and structure of a RUFORUM Alumni Network platform for strengthening higher education in Africa; 3. Officially Launch the RUFORUM Alumni Network
Approach and Methodology	The event will be organized as a one day event during the RUFORUM Biennial Conference attended by the RUFORUM Alumni. Background presentations will be made by the Alumni on the perspectives on their engagement with input from the Secretariat as necessary. Perspectives from the Alumni on the functionality of the Network will be discussed as well as discussion on key guiding documents and initial activities of RAN. Other members of the Network will participate in the launch of the Network.
Venue and Participants	The event will be attended by the RUFORUM Alumni Venue: Century City Conference Centre, Cape Town, Meeting Room 11 Date & Time: Wednesday 19th October, 2016 (1830-2230)
Side Event Organizers and Contact	The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) P.O Box 16811 Wandegaya - Kampala, Uganda Tel: +256-417-713-300 (Office) Contact: Mr. Emmanuel Okalany Programme Officer, Resource Mobilisation, RUFORUM E-mail: e.okalany@ruforum.org

Side Event Programme

Day One

Time	Activity	Responsible Person
18:00 - 18:10	Arrival and Registration	RUFORUM
18:10 - 18:15	Welcome Remarks	Executive Secretary RUFORUM
18:15 - 18:30	Introductions and meeting objectives	RUFORUM Secretariat
18:30 - 19:30	Background presentations from Alumni – perspectives on the RAN and its functioning	Selected Alumni
19:30 - 20:00	Working Dinner	
20:00 - 21:00	Group discussions on the Activities of the RAN	Facilitator
21:00 - 21:30	Plenary presentations of group discussion reports	Facilitator
21:30 - 22:00	Discussions and conclusions	Facilitator
22:00 - 22:05	Photo ceremony	All
22:05	Closure	RUFORUM

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Strengthening University Engagement for Community Transformation and Impact Plenary Session at the Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference

Concept Note

Background

Since Independence, the role of African universities in strengthening agricultural output, community transformation and rural development has been discussed in many platforms and fora. Universities are traditionally mandated to undertake three main functions: to train, undertake research and, thirdly, to reach out and impact communities with their products. Nonetheless, with a few exceptions, university focus has been predominantly placed on training, and research. Outreach has been largely neglected. Yet Universities, for a number of reasons, are well placed to support rural transformation: 1) Universities often employ a large proportion and number of highly trained staff –in some cases well over half of the scientists within the national science systems; 2) universities continuously generate knowledge to support rural innovation and transformation; 3) universities play an important function of maintaining knowledge including through the curricula that are employed and shared with subsequent generations of scholars that pursue university training; and, 4) students at universities comprise a significant workforce that can support agricultural innovation at farm level, if well guided and supported through various models and approaches.

Agriculture in Africa employs over 70% of its populations and contributes over 30% of GDP. However, annual growth rate (for example, measured by crop yield increases) in the sector has been comparatively low when benchmarked with other continents. A recent study indicated that growth in the sector has been largely a result of increases in land under cultivation, rather than productivity increases. In either case, the rise in number of those in extreme poverty in Africa is of concern. Previous policies have relied on the role of extension system within a linear knowledge dissemination paradigm. But extension systems in many parts of Africa have largely collapsed or at least are ineffective, due to lack of incentives to support a knowledge intensive sector. Many degree-awarding institutions in Africa have little or no direct linkages with smallholder farmers and their environments. The relevance and effectiveness of agricultural extension agents is further restricted by insufficient engagement with agribusiness systems and markets. Moreover, the significant pool of technologies appropriate for smallholder farmers is not being broadly utilized. There is also inadequate attention to informal farmer learning models, and such models have often been considered inappropriate or no recognition and/or accreditation given to them. The role of women farmers and the significance of gender in agricultural development strategies and interventions have not adequately been recognized. Universities in Africa need to engage more with rural communities to lesson learn, understudy and support transformation efforts in rural communities. But to do these they need to transform themselves. Fortunately there are ongoing initiatives responding to the above issues. Thus the Biennial 2016 Conference provides opportunity various actors to address some of the above issues, and especially to lesson learn from some of the experiences.

Universities have an important role in training the next generation of development workers, and scientists, who are well grounded in the realities that farmers face, and are able to support agribusiness innovations in a sustainable and responsive manner. Such innovations will be critical in overcoming emerging challenges such as climate change, transboundary animal as well as zoonotic diseases, globalization and related challenges, rural urban migration and the knowledge economy, among others.

The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) agreed to by African Leaders in 2003 sets a target for a 6% annual increase in agricultural output at national level through development and implementation of evidence based strategies. The Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa 2024 (STISA) calls for the integration of science as an underpinning for development initiatives, to support Africa's competitiveness in today's knowledge economy. Recent agreement of the Sustainable Development Goals at the global level, further underscore the importance of harnessing available capacity to respond to current challenges and shortcomings of initiatives that made up the Millennium Development Goals.

Community engagement initiatives under RUFORUM

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) was founded in 2004 by African Vice Chancellors to etch out a clear role and place for universities in supporting rural development. RUFORUM envisions 'a vibrant agricultural sector linked to African universities that can produce high-performing graduates and high-quality research, responsive to the demands of Africa's farmers for innovations, and able to generate sustainable livelihoods and national economic development'. RUFORUM has over the years focused on identifying models of community transformation that could be adapted to Africa's diverse contexts and implemented by university members to contribute to the attainment of Africa vision, Agenda 2063 and the Global Sustainable Development Goals (Agenda 2030).

The RUFORUM Graduate Research Grants Program within its Competitive Grants Systems emphasizes linking faculty and students with rural communities, promoting inter-disciplinary research and encouraging multi-agency research teams to create impact across the region. The CGS gives universities opportunities to encourage participatory research by faculty and students working in partnerships with the farmers and other agencies involved in research and development. On the other hand the Community Action Research Programme (CARP) encourage universities to develop and invest in more comprehensive and sustained action research into a particular geographical area or in a selected commodity along the full value chain. RUFORUM is also piloting a Student Community Attachment Programme, where students, both undergraduates and postgraduate, are attached to rural communities to foster rural transformation by strengthening community entrepreneurs and value chains. The aim is also to train a pool of young graduates with strong values of rural attachment, giving back to society and championing rural transformations. RUFORUM's approach is to pilot specific programs, which can be used for learning, and to support policy advocacy at regional and continental level, strengthen the sharing of best practice and support scaling to member universities and beyond.

RUFORUM has worked closely with EARTH University (Costa Rica), Wageningen University and Research Centre (Netherlands), Makerere University, Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR) in Malawi, and University of Eldoret (Kenya) and others to strengthen its Community Action Research Program (CARP) model by integrating approaches for enhancing experiential learning and entrepreneurship programs within university training programs. Although While RUFORUM has piloted these models, there is strong recognition that there are other initiatives and programs globally that could potentially benefit African Universities in transformation towards greater community engagement. Experiences include Songhai Center in Benin and Ashesi University in Ghana, among others, which have all demonstrated innovativeness within specific contexts. Experiences from a wider range of partners will greatly benefit African universities and the higher education sector in general.

RUFORUM recognizes the importance of linking its initiatives with a greater understanding of both national level policy direction, but also towards the direction for development assistance from strategic partners that have had great involvement with Africa in the past and will most likely continue to do so in the future such as from Europe, America and Asia.

Objectives of the session	The overall aim of the session is to review lessons on approaches to strengthening university engagement with communities so as to identify models that could be shared and mainstreamed at African universities, with adaptation to fit local context.
Approach and Methodology	The session will be held on Thursday 20 October, 2016 at the Century City Conference Center in Cape Town, South Africa. It will start with a key note paper by Dr David Bergvinson, the Director General of ICRISAT on Digital agriculture and reaching smallholder farmers. This will be followed by a Panel discussion on Linking Universities to Communities. The Panel will involve speakers from Songhai Center in Benin, EARTH University in Costa Rica, Witwatersrand University in South Africa, a RUFORUM alumni working in development from Farm Radio in Malawi, and a farmer from the Popular Women's Knowledge Initiative (P'KWI) in Uganda. Subsequently there will be parallel sessions on the topic such as one led by University of Venda on Strengthening university-community engagement and innovation platforms, the FARMNET Stakeholder workshop on Facilitated dialogue to inform the development of enhanced forms of smallholder market network structures and InnovATE (USAID Feed the Future programme) one on Positive youth development and experiential learning in university outreach.
Expected outputs	<p>The following are the expected outputs from the Session:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review of current research and development underway to strengthen university participation in improving food and nutrition security of communities in Africa 2. Sharing of best practices, models and experiences on strengthening university engagement with communities for impact 3. Recommendations for university transformations to improve support to rural communities in Africa
Venue and Participants	<p>Venue: Century City Conference Centre, Hall C Date & Time: Thursday 20th October 2016 from 1115-1730</p>
Side Event Organizers and Contact	<p>Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) Contact: Dr Paul Nampala (p.nampala@ruforum.org)</p>

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Joint Meta- Learning on Higher Agricultural Education to Enhance Relevance and Quality of Postgraduate Training in Africa

Concept Note

Background

Agriculture has been recognized for a long time as a key driver for economic development for various reasons. A large proportion of Africans (over 60% across the continent, and in some countries as high as 80%) derive employment from the agricultural sector. Secondly, agriculture contributes significantly to the national GDPs, averaging close to 30%. Thirdly, agriculture is largely practiced in rural areas by the poor with comparatively low yields and high postharvest losses. However, agricultural output remains low and performance poor. Reports have demonstrated that even where production has increased, increases have largely been from increased crop areas (Pinto et al., 2014). Thus, a large number of Africans continue to go hungry and suffer from chronic malnutrition. In fact, Africa is the only continent where extreme poverty has actually increased in the last decade. At the same time, Africa's young and currently rural population continues to grow at a fast pace, expected to more than double to reach 2.3 billion by 2050 highlighting the imperative to grow more food, from less land. Climate change, urbanization, globalization are all expected to present further significant challenges to agricultural production.

Higher education, science, technology and innovation have been identified as strategic areas at national and regional level on the continent for responding to agricultural challenges and for driving economic growth. As such, Africa has adopted the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA, 2024), the Science Agenda for Agriculture (S3A), and the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP, 2003) as blue prints for transformation and economic development in the continent. However, the limited human capital and related skills and knowledge to support the implementation of these initiatives is grossly curtailing progress to achieve the development targets in the continent including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Higher agricultural education institutions have been challenged to transform themselves to respond to these challenges. The Higher education sector despite its many challenges provides the underpinning for building a science, technology and innovation sector. Universities maintain a large share of PhD qualified staff in many African countries, many holding over 50% of the national available proportion of PhDs qualified scientists for supporting both training and knowledge generation. Farmers desperately need improved technologies to adjust to new social, economic and climatic environments and the universities need to directly and fully respond to these challenges. In addition the quality and focus of training at universities and colleges of agriculture need to be transformed and enhanced to produce graduates who can effectively play critical roles in the transformation of African agriculture and other sectors.

Key challenges faced by universities are how to increase access and maintain quality, how to recruit and maintain quality staff and programs, how to enhance knowledge output, how to match graduates to the demands of the ever changing labor market, including the reduced opportunities for employment in the public sector, and increasing opportunities for private employment and innovation that call for entrepreneurship skills.

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) is an association of 60 African Universities founded in 2004 by African Vice Chancellors to transform African Universities into knowledge institutions that contribute towards national development goals through the empowerment of graduates and small-scale farmers.

RUFORUM mission is “to strengthen the capacities of Universities to foster innovations responsive to the demands of smallholder farmers and value chains through the training of high quality researchers, the output of impact-oriented research, and the maintenance of collaborative working relations among researchers, farmers, market actors, national agricultural research and advocacy institutions, and governments.” RUFORUM provides an effective platform for University support to smallholders by enabling the University community to contribute to the productivity of small-scale producers and the value chains that serve them. This platform also provides direct links into the national research and policy nexus. More specifically, the network aims to spread RUFORUM best practices through 1) building lessons into academic teaching, 2) working with partners in selected countries, including BMGF anchor countries to spread findings through their networks both geographically and along value chains and 3) taking on a visionary/advocacy role at the continental level.

Learning from previous implementation and partnerships

Improving monitoring, evaluation and learning is critical for making gains in the higher education sector. In particular, the experiences from initiatives to strengthen higher education in Africa can be analyzed, synthesized and unpacked to provide strategies for design for current planners in the higher education sector. Universities themselves, but also Ministries of Education, national planning authorities, university management and other higher education stakeholders stand to benefit significantly from such lesson. African Universities can also benefit from partnerships with universities in Europe, for example through Agrinatura. European Universities have since independence been working in partnership with universities in Africa to support higher education objectives. Building stronger links with Europe for lesson learning and for guiding future direction is an important component of this work. Lessons from other parts of the world would also help in design and implementation of higher education initiatives in Africa.

Examples of previous partnerships on higher education with Europe

In Europe, Agrinatura undertook in 2011 a study commissioned by EIARD that analysed the contribution of the EU and Member States on capacity building. The conclusions underlined the need of capitalising the results of the past actions and to contribute to better coordination of the actions. This is the focus of this side event. There is need to build on lessons of the EDULINK I & II programme of the EC/ACP, and other European donor funded programmes with focus in Africa related to Higher Agricultural Education such as from NUFFIC, SIDA and DFID (i.e. the Strengthening Capacity for Agriculture Research for Agricultural Development-SCARDA). The Project will also highlight specific lessons from EDULINK funded projects in which RUFORUM and other partners have been participating. Such projects include six funded ACP EDULINK and S&T Projects as well as those being coordinated by the partner institutions such as: 1) Catalysing Change at African Universities (CCAU); Strengthening University Capacity for promoting, facilitating and teaching rural innovation processes (SUCAPRI); Enhancing Research Capacity in Eastern and Southern Africa; and the Quality Assurance and Management Project led by RUFORUM. 2) Other projects (funded by ACP-EU S&T) are the Shifting from outreach to engagement: transforming universities current response to development challenges; Building the Capacity of African University Graduates to foster change through Agricultural Innovations (Go4It); and the Neglected and underutilised species project (NUS). More recently, RUFORUM has engaged in various projects with EDULINK II including the Establishing and Piloting Postgraduate Programmes for Supporting Agricultural Development in Post Conflict Countries of Central and Eastern Africa (ADECEA) and the Online Platforms Project.

The side event also recognises that other partners from the around the globe are engaged in various higher education initiatives in Africa and these will be leveraged for lessons for Africa. These may include Australia, the United States, Canada and China.

Objectives of the side Event	<p>This goal of the side event will be to inform future strategies for strengthening higher education in Africa by undertaking a Meta review of previous and current initiatives in higher agricultural education with focus at postgraduate level. Specifically, the objective will be to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review current and on-going higher agricultural education initiatives in Africa to Identify lessons and best practices 2. Map on-going interventions to identify synergies and gap areas for future interventions 3. Define recommendations to guide future initiatives that are aimed at strengthening agricultural higher education in Africa
Approach and Methodology	<p>A one day side event will be at the RUFORUM Biennial Conference in Cape Town, South Africa from 17-21 October. The Side event will take place on Thursday 20 October, 2016. Participants will be expected from European and African universities and other regions with experience in higher agricultural education innovation. The meeting will be opened by statements from RUFORUM, Agrinatura and Makerere University prior to official opening address from a representative from the Government of South Africa. Meeting objectives will be shared with the participants on behalf of the co-hosts by RUFORUM. Group work will be organised to review current and on-going higher agricultural education initiatives in Africa to Identify lessons and best practices, map on-going interventions to identify synergies and gap areas for future interventions and to define recommendations to guide future initiatives that are aimed at strengthening agricultural higher education in Africa.</p>
Venue and Participants	<p>Venue: Century City Conference Centre, Hall A Date & Time: Thursday 20th October 2016 from 1115-1300</p>
Side Event Organizers and Contact	<p>RUFORUM, Agrinatura and Makerere University</p>

Bibliography:

1. Europe 2020 Strategy: A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. Brussels, 2010
2. Jeff Borland, 2002. New Estimates of the Private Rate of Return to University Education in Australia. Melbourne Institute Working Paper No. 14/02. University of Melbourne, Australia.
3. Maglen, L. (1994), 'Education expansion and the private returns to a university degree', Economic Papers, 13, 57-71.
4. Montenegro C. & H. Patrinos, 2013. Returns to Schooling round the World. Background Paper for the World Development Report 2013. World Bank, Washington DC.
5. Pinto et al., 2014.
6. Salmi, J. (2009). The Challenge of Establishing World Class Universities. Washington: World Bank- IBRD.
7. World Bank (2016). Poverty in a rising Africa. Africa Poverty Report. International Bank for Reconstruction and Development / The World Bank, Washington DC. doi:
8. 10.1596/978-1-4648-0723-7. World Bank, 2013. Growing Africa Unlocking the Potential of Agribusiness. AFTFP/ AFTAI, World Bank. Washington, DC, USA.

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Strengthening Higher Education Partnerships towards a Food and Nutrition Secure Africa A convergence of higher education networks at the at the Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference

Concept Note

Background & Introduction

The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda agreed to by global leaders at the 70th General Assembly of the United Nations in September, 2016 calls for a transformation to save our planet and basic human rights for all, through 17 interlinked goals. SDG 1 calls for 'ending poverty in all its forms everywhere' and goal 2 to 'end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture'. Although Africa demonstrated strong economic performance during the last decade, with average GDP growth at over 5%, extreme poverty has grown with number of poor increasing from 280million in 1990 to 330 million in 2012 (World Bank, 2016). Impacting African rural farm based communities, which form the majority of Africa's population will require renewed strategies, underpinned by a new cadre of professionals that will be able to understand contexts, including the challenges and constraints that rural farmers face. The workforce will need to support farmers to generate and or/access new knowledge to raise productivity in a sustainable way while at the same time, to reduce on- and post- farm losses. Commodity value chains will need to be more competitive and more value needs to be added locally before sale, to ensure increased incomes to rural households in Africa, through the greater application of science, technology and innovation in the Continent. Higher Education has a strategic role in skilling graduates and to support context specific knowledge generation that supports the empowerment of rural farmers.

Education, and particularly, Higher education is increasingly recognized as an important component of rural development strategies in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). Education has been shown to explain a high proportion (over 40%) of overall inequality. The important role of higher education in nation building through research and innovation capacity in a highly competitive and increasingly globalised world is critical in enabling and maintaining economic growth and development. Studies on higher education and its benefits have demonstrated that increasing access to higher education will have broad impacts on society, including by moulding citizens to participate more effectively in civil programs, improving individual incomes, enhancing nutrition and family wellbeing and strengthening workplace performance and effectiveness. At the same time, investment in higher education have high rates of return. USAID (2014) highlighted that private rates of returns to schooling are significantly higher in sub-Saharan Africa than any part of the world (USAID, 2014). Higher education institutions are therefore being called upon to be more responsive to development needs, and as the sector develops, there are more calls for their differentiation to serve diverse needs of growing economies. Higher education can play a critical role in harnessing current growth, which has soared in Africa at 4.5% annual average GDP growth on the continent for close to two decades (World Bank, 2016).

Higher education partnerships are important enabling mechanisms for African agricultural tertiary education institutions to be more relevant in fulfilling their mandate. The need for partnerships is underscored by both the current inadequacy for the higher education systems in Africa to provide quality training, particularly at graduate (Masters and Doctoral) level and to harness regional, continental and global lessons/ experiences.

Although a multitude of African universities have been established in the last four decades in many African countries, most are grappling with quality issues, inadequate resources, weak curriculums, and inadequate contributions to national development aims. Enrollment, at the same time has drastically increased beyond the capacity of higher education institutions to effectively absorb . Further, net emigration continues to remain a key issue and will continue to challenge capacity development in the region, unless rewards and incentive systems are revamped. Net emigration from SSA was 0.57 million in 1995; fell to 0.29 million in 2000; and then rose to 1.07 million in 2005 (World Bank, 2009). The role of higher education networks will remain critical to enhance cross border/ cross institutional learning and to synergise current and future activities by leveraging regional, continental and global expertise for advancement. There exists a number of networks, associations and higher education institutions in Africa that collectively have a wealth of experience that could be shared for strengthening higher education performance in Africa.

Lessons from other regions of the world have shown the importance of partnerships in strengthening agricultural education and training (Eicher, 2010). In Africa, there have been a number of training programmes and approaches, involving sandwich programmes, full term training in advanced countries and other models that have resulted in human resource development at M.Sc. and PhD level. However, in many cases for Africa, unlike the Asian and other models, majority of the training was undertaken in northern institutions for various reasons. Recent reports indicate the need to strengthen not only human, but also institutional capacity of African institutions for research, training and education. This will require strengthening strategic alliances among African Higher Education and Learning Institutions, and with other actors within and outside the Continent. Higher education networks and associations will have important lessons to share to advance this work. There is need for closer collaboration between the higher education, research and the private sector and this requires additional and different capacity at African universities (African Commission, 2009; Eicher, 2010) which can be facilitated by Higher education networks.

Purpose & Rationale of the Side Event

Over the last few years, various networks and initiatives have emerged with focus on Africa that bring together actors either within or across thematic areas in support of higher education in Africa. These networks have diverse missions and activities but with often overlapping areas where synergies need to be identified and magnified. Some of the university associations and networks, in addition to the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) include the African Network for Agriculture and Agroforestry Education (ANAFE), African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA), the Association of African Universities, Conseil africain et malgachepour l'enseignement supérieur (CAMES), the Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA), the Southern African Regional Universities Association (SARUA), among others.

Objectives of the side Event

The main purpose of the side event will be to improve the synergies and collaboration between African Higher Education networks in Africa to enhance impact of these networks on African higher education. It also aims to network African Higher Education Institutions and networks with others from outside Africa.

Approach and Methodology

A one day meeting will be organized at the Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference to be held at the Century City Conference Center in Cape Town. The meeting will involve plenary discussions, following a keynote paper on higher education in Africa and role of higher education networks. Specific networks will be provided opportunity to share lessons with the meeting on their experiences and best practices. Group work sessions will be used to ensure achievement of the meeting objectives and to identify recommendations for actions going forward.

Expected outputs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review of existing higher education networks in Africa and key activities and objectives; 2. A framework for strengthening collaboration and synergy between and amongst higher education networks in Africa, and also with other global networks; 3. Sharing of lessons from higher education network activities; 4. Identification of areas for collaboration
Venue and Participants	<p>Venue: Century City Conference Center, Meeting Room 6 Participants: Higher Education Networks and others attending the Biennial Conference Date: 20 October 2016 Time: 1115-1730</p>
Side Event Organizers and Contact	<p>The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) P.O Box 16811 Wandegaya - Kampala, Uganda Tel: +256-417-713-300 (Office)</p> <p>Contact: Dr. Moses Osiru Deputy Executive Secretary, RUFORUM E-mail: m.osiru@ruforum.org</p>

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Positive Youth Development and Experiential Learning in University Outreach

Concept Note

Background & Introduction	<p>The InnovATE project is funded by the US Agency for International Development to promote human and institutional capacity development at agricultural education and training institutions. Corresponding to the Biennial 2016 Theme 3, this side session will promote outreach and community engagement of universities focusing on positive youth development programs and experiential learning.</p> <p>Positive youth development programs promote self-reliance, confidence, teamwork, leadership and entrepreneurial thinking among youth through extracurricular clubs supported by local communities. They are also effective mechanisms for dissemination of agricultural extension, nutrition, and health messages in rural areas.</p> <p>Experiential learning is a pedagogic method that involves students in community-centered problem solving. Experiential learning is integrated into formal classes for credit. The session will highlight how to do so effectively by examining successful cases and discussing factors that lead to good learning outcomes.</p>
Aims & Objectives of the side Event	<p>Participants will learn how positive youth development and experiential learning can be used to improve university outreach. The session will feature and compare successful models of positive youth development programs in Africa, emphasizing opportunities for university faculty members to provide agricultural technical guidance. Experiential learning programs will be featured as models for community engagement of university students.</p>

Approach and Methodology	The session will combine invited presentations with large-group discussion to distill success stories and lessons learned.
Venue and Participants	Venue: Century City Conference Centre, Meeting Room 9 Date & Time: Thursday 20th October 2016 from 1115-1730 Participants will be 4-H organizers and agricultural faculty members responsible for university outreach efforts.
Side Event Organizers and Contact	This session will be led by the USAID-funded Innovation for Agricultural Training and Education (InnovATE) project and RUFORUM Secretariat. Contacts: Larry Vaughan, Director, InnovATE. larryjv@vt.edu Johanna Cricenti, Project Manager, InnovATE. johanna5@vt.edu

Side Event Programme

SESSION 9.7 Thursday 20th October 2016, CCCC Meeting Room 9, 1115-1730		
MAIN THEME	Positive Youth Development and Experiential Learning in University Outreach	
Time	Activity	Responsible Person
11.15 - 11.45	Welcoming remarks and introductions	Larry Vaughan. USAID Innovation for Agricultural Training and Education (InnovATE) project
Session I: Positive Youth Development Models (Moderator: L. Vaughan)		
11.45 - 12.00	4-H in Senegal	Bineta Guisse. USAID Education and Research in Agriculture Project. Senegal
12.15 – 12.30	4-H in Ghana	Appiah Kwaku Boateng, 4-H Ghana
12.30 – 12.45	University involvement in 4-H Ghana	Osman Alhassan. 4-H Tamale, Ghana.
12.45 – 13.00	Discussion	
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch	
Session II: The Interface between Outreach and University Students (Moderator: L. Vaughan)		
14.00 - 14.20	Integrating Experiential Learning across a University Curriculum	Courage Kosi Setsoafia Saba, University for Development Studies (UDS). Ghana
14.20 – 14.40	Experiential Learning in Agriculture and Health in Tanzania	Carolyne Nombo, Sokoine Agricultural University. Tanzania
14.40 – 15.00	Discussion	
Session III : Positive Youth Development II (Moderator: L. Vaughan)		
15.10 – 15.45	Assessing Opportunities for University Outreach in Liberia's 4-H Program	Roland Massaquoi. University of Liberia G. Umaru Sheriff. 4-H Liberia.
15.45 – 16.15	A Gender Toolkit for Positive Youth Development Programs	Susan Naburi. 4-H Tanzania
16.15 – 16.50	Discussion	
16.50 – 17.00	Closing remarks	L. Vaughan. InnovATE

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Collaboration in the Area of Soil Science

Concept Note

Background & Introduction

The Eurasian Center for Food Security is a think-tank affiliated with the Lomonosov Moscow State University and funded through the Russian Agricultural Development Aid Cooperation mechanism. Ensuring food security and agricultural development is one of the priority areas of international development assistance of the Russian Federation.

Since 2011, there has been an ongoing collaborative partnership between the World Bank and the Government of the Russian Federation, whereby the Bank has been assisting the Lomonosov Moscow State University in developing the Eurasian Center for Food Security. This Center is housed in the University's Soil Sciences and Economics Faculties with the objective of promoting inter-disciplinary research and analytical knowledge in Food Security issues in the Eurasian region and beyond.

The Center builds on the strong educational and research reputation of Lomonosov Moscow State University, specifically in the area of soil science. The University houses one of the unique soil science faculties in the world, and is known for its scientific and educational resources.

For several decades, a gradual but steady deterioration of the fertility of soils in Africa has posed a challenge to economic development on that Continent and to the livelihoods and food security of rural people. Even so, this situation has not had significant profile nor has it received the attention it requires. Further, agricultural research and training programs at universities and at dedicated research organizations (including at the CGIAR) have gradually diminished their attention to soils per se, while turning their focus to more holistic issues around crop production. While this latter focus has value and merit, the diminishment of attention to soil science threatens to become a constraint to the agricultural on the Continent. After several decades on this trend line, Africa has limited human and institutional capital with which to address the profound soil challenges that it faces.

Given the above, the Center has expressed interest in expanding its focus beyond Eastern Europe and Central Asia to include Africa. In particular, the Center is interested to explore the possibility of developing a program of support to help to address the soil situation in Africa. Initially, this would likely be through the development of collaboration in capacity building with African universities and other agricultural research institutions in the area of soil science. More specifically, the Center has expressed interest in making its resources available to African students, researchers and professors.

The RUFORUM in Cape Town provides a unique opportunity to begin exploring the possibility of developing a program of support and collaboration for soil science in Africa.

Aims and Objectives of the side Event	<p>The session objectives will be (a) to discuss the soils situation in Africa, and the current state of affairs with respect to soil science training and research in Africa; (b) to initiate a discussion on whether the Center can become a partner with the selected African Universities and to help identify ways on how to build partnership; and (c) to explore the interest of selected African Universities and the Center in developing joint education programs or in supporting African students' or practitioners' participation in the Center's educational courses.</p>
Approach and Methodology	<p>It is envisaged that a discussion session will be organized as a side meeting to the RUFORUM biennial meetings in Cape Town on 20 October 2016. The session would involve participants from African agricultural universities, desirably with background in soil or related sciences, experts from the CGIAR Centers, other research centers or universities, the Eurasian Center for Food Security and the World Bank.</p> <p>The session would be a three hour event - organized by the Center, RUFORUM and the World Bank as roundtable discussion. It is anticipated that it would have an attendance of roughly 20 invited participants. The desired outcome will be an action plan or an agreement to move forward with agreed activities. This would likely involve further discussion and the development of a concept note over the course of November, with a follow-up discussion in Moscow during early December. It is expected that at the first stage educational courses that would be available in the Center in 2017 would serve as the first step for the partnership, followed-up with exchange of students and practitioners.</p>
Outputs/ outcomes	<p>A collaboration framework between Africa Universities and Eurasian Center for Food Security agreed upon</p> <p>A Plan for strengthening training and research in Soil Science in RUFORUM Universities developed</p>
Side Event Organizers and Contact	<p>Eurasian Center for Food Security, World Bank Contact: Dr. David Nielson, Lead Agricultural Economist Email: dnielson@worldbank.org and</p> <p>Artavazd Hakobyan Email: ahakobyan@worldbank.org</p>

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

FARMNET Stakeholder Workshop – A facilitated dialogue to inform the development of enhanced forms of smallholder market networks structures

Concept Note

Background & Introduction	FARMNET is a WesBank funded project housed by Stellenbosch University and led by the Southern African Food Lab project which forms part of the University.
Purpose of the Side Event	<p>The overarching aim of FARMNET will be to analyse the various forms of farmer cooperation through the formation of networks, groupings and associations, and to propose and test enhanced farmer network structures that can be adopted by smallholder farmers to facilitate market access.</p> <p>FARMNET will focus on smallholder farmers who are currently seeking to transform from subsistence to engaging with the market. These smallholder farmers who currently support the food security of the most vulnerable populations both in rural and urban areas are a key focus of the South African National Development Plan and should be supported to establish sustainable market relationships.</p>
Motivation	<p>In South Africa agriculture has always been a smaller part of the economy because of the relatively large mining sector. The legacy of agricultural policy in South Africa (segregation, suppression and support) has led to a distorted countryside with constrained economic development, skewed in favour of greater capital intensity (Vink and McLachlan, 2012). Agriculture contributes a larger share of economic activity in many rural areas of the country compared to urban areas, especially (but not exclusively) in the former homeland areas where poverty and the concomitant food insecurity is concentrated (Vink and McLachlan, 2012). FARMNET is working to engage with the current system reviewing or collating reviews to better understand where potential for transformative processes lie. Thus FARMNET is initially working on a systematic review of policies, practices and results of previous systems in order to feed into a think tank and the process of design. The process which will be central to the workshop at the RUFORUM October 2016 Biennial conference will engage with small scale, existing farmer networks as well as government agricultural extension officers and the food security task team for three provinces.</p> <p>FARMNET will be working in line with The National Development Plan (NDP) 2013. The NDP provides an innovative framework to begin to inform action, required across society, to deal with pervasive hunger. The NDP makes several arguments that resonate with international literature in its appraisal of what it will take to eradicate food insecurity. Proposed interventions require engaging the entire food system, as well as addressing linkages with the education and health systems. To address food insecurity the NDP calls for collaboration between government, the private sector, civil society and citizens to establish “self-sustainable” local food systems that would underpin universal access and utilisation over time. Such an approach is envisaged to reduce hunger and poverty, increase agricultural development and address malnutrition, which will in turn contribute towards skills development and improve inclusive economic growth and job creation.</p>

Approach and Methodology	<p>The FARMNET Stakeholder Workshop will be building on the initial project work and asking participants for inputs into the concept/design. The initial project work has seen the development of a smallholder farmer network data base, a systematic literature review of network structures that have facilitated smallholder market access, and the completion of a number of stakeholder interviews and farmer case studies all of which have worked towards gaining an informed understanding of how farmers currently engage with the system. At the workshop the findings will be presented and there will be dialogue around this to inform the development of a enhance farmer network concept.</p> <p>The Stakeholder Workshop will take the form of a facilitated participatory dialogue process following short presentations of findings with a view to gaining insight and clarity on the proposed concept of FARMNET. In addition, there will be an Exhibition booth to profile activities of FARMNET.</p>
Expected outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Building support for the FARMNET process in South Africa which has begun; 2. Critical assessment and input from participants to the pilot concept which will be presented. 3. Increased visibility of FARMNET
Venue and Participants	<p>Venue: Century City Conference Centre, Meeting Room 11 Date & Time: Thursday 20th October 2016 from 1115-1730 12 FARMNET core group members 25 South African delegates, from farmer cooperatives, universities We invite outside Stakeholders to this event who are not attending RUFORUM Biennial, as well as RUFORUM Biennial participants.</p>
Side Event Organizers and Contact	FARMNET

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Building a High Quality Higher Education System in Africa: What Game Changers?

Plenary Session at the Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference

Concept Note

Background & Introduction	<p>“Talk-shops about world-class research universities or even centres of excellence alone will not accelerate economic growth in Africa without a sustainable investment and political support for the reinforcement of a system of world-class training and research in universities in support of accelerated socio- economic growth in Africa”</p> <p>The Higher Education sector in Africa has expanded greatly in the past few decades, growing to over five million participants from just below 70,000 at the end of the 1970’s. Demand for access to higher education continues to grow fueled by expanded universal primary and secondary education systems and fast increasing populations. Reports from the World Bank indicate that there are expected to be over 11 million new entrants, annually, to the job market in Africa over the next few years, underscoring the large number of youth in Africa and the enormity of the challenge. Close to half a billion Africans (50%) are less than 24 years of age.</p>
---------------------------	--

As the availability of employment opportunities in the public sector continues to shrink, the new entrants to the job market will have to rely increasingly on finding employment opportunities in the non-public sectors, including non-governmental, and civil society organizations but most importantly within the private sector. Graduates will not only have to have stronger perception and knowledge of the contexts in which they work but will need to have entrepreneurial and strong communication and networking skills in addition to technical skills. Graduate will need to be job creators rather than searching for scarce employment job opportunities. This presents an evolution from the traditional type of graduate that universities were set up to train around the time of independence. There is a need to create and adopt new ways of teaching and learning in higher education, research and innovation in the agricultural and related sciences that would lead to graduates with the necessary mix of scientific knowledge, managerial skills and societal adaptability to operate in a changing environment. Such graduates need to be able to shape their own futures and to generate and circulate new science-based knowledge with greater socio-economic and development relevance and impact.

Introduction

The quality of higher education systems has thus, overall been called into question. Higher education institutions face a myriad of challenges that limit their ability to strengthen the quality of their programs. A number of these arose from the long period of neglect in the 1990s and early 2000s that arose from a refocusing of government policy from higher education to primary and secondary education systems in Africa that were driven by the World Bank. The now famous Policy Paper by Psacharapoulos (1986) recommended focus away from higher education based on his finding that revealing greater returns to primary and secondary schooling vs higher education. More recent studies have now shown that the opposite is truer: that returns to education were shown to increase with years of schooling, and greater returns were found, as might be expected, in Sub-Saharan Africa, as this region is coming from a very low level. Higher Education sector challenges today include inadequate staffing, particularly at PhD level. As the sector expanded, there was no parallel investment in human resources and infrastructure development within higher education institutions. The resulting conundrum, means that more highly qualified staff are first required to support the escalation of PhD training at African universities and yet the scaffolding for PhD training is not available in many institutions. Strengthening higher education and training in Africa, particularly at postgraduate level would provide the staffing to support the concentration of talent at African 'centers of excellence', including through reversal of brain drain, and further strengthening quality of local faculty. Amidst these challenges, there have been various efforts to strengthen higher education quality including the establishment of centers of leadership and centers of excellence in the region.

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity in Agriculture (RUFORUM) was established by African Vice Chancellors in 2004 to respond to these challenges, within the agricultural and related sectors. The Vice Chancellors recognized that they could benefit more from collaboration rather than from working alone and competing in strengthening postgraduate training at African universities. RUFORUM was set up with mission to 'strengthen the capacities of Universities to foster innovations responsive to the demands of smallholder farmers and value chains through the training of high quality researchers, the output of impact-oriented research, and the maintenance of collaborative working relations among researchers, farmers, market actors, national agricultural research and advocacy institutions, and governments'. Its expected strategic results are:

1. Masters and doctoral programs responsive to stakeholder needs and national/regional development goals.
2. Shared research and education/training facilities and capacities rationalised for enhanced economies of scale and scope.

3. Innovative education/training research and outreach activities supported by adaptive management structures in universities contributing to policy and development practice.
4. Operational capacity and approaches for innovative, quality and impact-oriented agricultural R4D mainstreamed in universities.
5. Increased participation and voices of women in education/ training, research and production and marketing of knowledge;
6. Increased use of technology to support effective, decentralised learning and sharing of knowledge.
7. A dynamic regional platform for policy advocacy, lobbying, coordination, and resource mobilization for improved education/ training, research and outreach by universities.

As part of its operations, RUFORUM has initiated various activities to strengthen university quality, including the establishment of 'centers of leadership' for thematic areas to support the implementation of the STISA, CAADP and national visions. The regional programs are built around RUFORUM networking operandi. RUFORUM has established 10 regional PhD programs including in plant breeding and biotechnology; dryland resource management, soil and water management, aquaculture and fisheries, agricultural rural innovations, food science and nutrition among others. The programs benefit from skills and expertise from across the region and train for the continent by opening mechanism for mobility of staff and students through the RUFORUM umbrella.

In addition to RUFORUM, there are a number of other on-going initiatives that are focused on strengthening higher education in Africa. Support from the European Union has enabled engagement of European partner universities through programs such as the Educational Linkages Program (EDULINK) and the ACP Science and Technology to strengthen African higher education. Bilateral programs have also provided significant support such as through USAID's Feed the Future, NUFFIC, NORAD, SIDA, the French Government and others. More recently, the African Centers of Excellence Project, was created by the World Bank through IDA funding to national governments. Established in two phases, the first phase focused on West Africa and Phase 2 was recently launched that focusses on Eastern and Southern Africa.

RUFORUM has further built on the work by the Inter-University Council of East Africa (IUCEA) jointly with the National Commissions and the Higher Education Quality Management Initiative for Southern Africa (HEQMISA) to strengthen Quality Assurance Mechanisms (QAM) and Credit Accumulation Transfer (CAT) frameworks. The previous efforts have largely focused on undergraduate training, with pilot programmes in ICT and Business Management and RUFORUM has expanded this across the two regions, with focus on postgraduate level.

However, a lot more will have to be done to surmount the significant challenges facing higher education institutions in Africa. It is clear that innovative means will have to be brought to bear to support the strengthening of the quality of higher education institutions. These 'Game-Changers' need to be built around them a set of incentives that are adaptable to various systems across Africa while ensuring quality of higher education. For example, academic mobility is being used by the European Union through the Intra-Africa Academic Mobility Program (previously the Intra-ACP Academic mobility program) to strengthen the cooperation between higher education institutions. Academic mobility is being seen as a means to 'contribute to the improvement of the quality of higher education through the promotion of internationalization and harmonization of programmes and curricula within participating institutions'. Secondly, mobility will support students and staff to learn about the contexts in the partner countries within Africa, and 'benefit linguistically, culturally and professionally from experience gained in the context of mobility' .

	<p>ICT could be another 'game changer': 1) ICT technologies and devices are becoming much cheaper and accessible; 2) Connectivity is becoming more pervasive and mobile – even in rural areas – with a broad range of wireless, mobile and other devices, and smart and intelligent devices capable of a wide range of operations and 3) More services will be provided through cloud computing – removing the need for sophisticated local ICT systems and capabilities.</p> <p>There is need to more aggressively search for and lobby for political support to 'Game-changers' to surmount current challenges and transform the higher education sector in Africa to contribute more meaningfully to national development efforts.</p>
Objectives of the side Event	The overall goal of the session is to review the higher education sector in Africa, to identify lessons and opportunities to support the enhancement of quality of the sector within context. These 'Game-changers' would have to have the potential to radically transform the higher education sector in Africa.
Approach and Methodology	A plenary session will be held on Friday 21 October, 2016 at the Century City Conference City in Cape Town, South Africa. The Session will be moderated by a Chair. The Meeting will bring together higher education experts and policy makers from around the globe to deliberate on challenges and lessons for the higher sector in Africa. A key note presentation will be delivered by leading higher education experts to set the stage for plenary discussions and the parallel events. The first key note will focus on 'Prospects for Quality Higher Education in Africa'. Following this presentation, a respondent will make remarks to provide additional input to the key note paper, both providing important gap filling information, but also where necessary providing rebuttal and broadening the ideas available for discussion. A panel discussion will ensue. The Panel will highlight important innovations that would be potential 'game-changers' higher education. The Parallel session after the plenary will enable detailed discussion on more focused areas for in-depth discussion and recommendations for the Conference.
Expected outputs of the session	<p>The following are the expected outputs from the Session:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Possible the strategies for assisting African Universities to more systematically strengthen quality of higher education 2. Information on innovative programs in higher education that demonstrate effectiveness in achieving objectives of the higher education system in Africa 3. Key messages to African policy makers for influencing a sustainable commitment to support agricultural higher education in Africa
Venue and Participants	<p>Venue: Century City Conference Centre Date & Time: Friday 21st October 2016 from 0830-1040</p>
Side Event Organizers and Contact	<p>The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) P.O Box 16811 Wandegeya - Kampala, Uganda Tel: +256-417-713-300 (Office) Contact: Professor Adipala Ekwamu Email: e.adipala@ruforum.org</p>

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Building Africa's Human Capital for Accelerated Rural Development

A meeting of Ministers and Universities to discuss Higher Agricultural Education in Africa convened during the RUFORUM Biennial Conference and Fifth African Higher Education Week

"Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world"

Nelson Mandela

"Universities must become a primary tool for development in the new century"

Kofi Annan

Concept Note

Background & Introduction

By 2040, Africa will have the world's largest workforce, surpassing China and India. The over 600 million children born at the beginning of this Century will be entering into the workforce over the next 15 years. To harness the advantage this youth dividend can bring, the higher education sector must not only expand significantly, but also transform its approach. It must match the development needs on the Continent by equipping this burgeoning number of youths with the kind of skills that will be the engine for achieving Africa's Agenda 2063. Realising this potential will require investment, commitment and advocacy. Currently only 6% of Africa's youth are enrolled in universities relative to over 60% in OECD countries and a global average of 26%. It has been estimated that a one-year increase in average tertiary education levels would raise annual GDP growth in Africa by 0.39 percentage points, and eventually yield up to a 12 percent increase in GDP (AAI 2015). Recent studies have shown that returns to investment in higher education are around 20%, and in Africa closer to 30% (Montenegro and Patrinos, 2013; USAID, 2014). These are higher than returns to investments in other sectors, including to secondary and primary education.

The knowledge economy which drives the modern world cannot be accessed without these skills. Universities play a pivotal role in generating the skills, the research and the policies necessary for Africa to be competitive. Countries need to invest in universities and also to position them so that the universities play a full and active role working closely with local communities, national, African and global institutions.

Africa needs "Innovation Universities" that use new communications technologies and that combine research, teaching, societal service, and commercialization as their core functions. Universities that will be integrated into national and regional policy institutions; and Universities that are anchor institutions which help to set the agenda and that work closely with producers, consumers, communities, businesses, development and service providers and local and national governments.

The Sector however, is faced with deep rooted challenges, including:

1. Pressure on the limited high-level skills so necessary for universities to fulfil their teaching, research, innovation and societal roles;
2. Inadequate frameworks to enable governments to leverage the high-level skills that do exist in universities and develop them as anchor institutions for policy and development;
3. A skills mismatch between current university programs and the needs of the private sector, industry, NGO, CSO and government sectors ;
4. Insufficient post-graduate programs essential both to expand higher education access and contribute to innovation and development.
5. African research output remains alarmingly low (less than 2% of global output);
6. Insufficient opportunity to engage and share skills and research across the continent

The Role of RUFORUM

RUFORUM is committed to the transformation of higher education for greater relevance to African society and meeting the demand for high-level skills. The 60 Vice chancellors that make up RUFORUM all believe in the need to strengthen the responsiveness of African universities to the needs for transformation and to the provision of high quality, inclusive and relevant human resources, research and societal engagement.

RUFORUM's work has demonstrated that coordinated efforts around an African owned strategy for building university capacity for capacity building and research can yield great returns and is able to impact at scale. Their engagement in advocacy for both reform and greater investment in higher education brings together universities and senior policy makers to enhance these efforts.

Purpose and Rationale of the meeting

The Road thus far

Working together with other networks and institutions a number of steps have been taken. In the Seychelles in March 2008, the COMESA Ministers of Agriculture mandated a high-level policy meeting to respond to the challenge of building the high-level skills needed for Africa. At a Conference for Higher Education in Africa in Uganda (2010) organized by RUFORUM and CTA (Technical Centre for Agriculture and Rural Cooperation) and FARA (Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa), twenty (20) Ministers of Education, Agriculture, related sciences and Finance, committed their governments among other things to greater “emphasis by African governments on restoring the quality of higher education in agriculture. This will require special focus on higher degree training to produce the required capacity for delivering high quality teaching and learning experiences at African universities and colleges”. The recognition of the importance of investing in Higher Education has gathered momentum with a number of special events at the African Union and these outcomes were articulated in the Continental Education Strategy for Africa 2016-2025 with greater emphasis on the importance of Tertiary Education and research.

The African Higher Education Summit in Dakar, Senegal held in March 2015 concluded that it is essential to “develop a high quality, massive, vibrant, diverse, differentiated, innovative, autonomous and socially responsible higher education sector that will be a driving force to achieving the vision outlined in Agenda 2063”. The need to take urgent action to strengthen the higher education sector to underpin the use of science, technology and innovation for Africa's transformation was emphasized at a side event at the UN in New York (September 2015) Chaired by HE Prof. Arthur Peter Mutharika, the President of Malawi and this was then reaffirmed in Lilongwe, Malawi in October 2015, when twelve (12) African Ministers of Higher Education, Science and Technology agreed that it is important to produce “liberally educated, scientifically literate and professionally prepared, creative and entrepreneurial graduates with integrity and ethical human values”.

They committed that to achieve this they would support “building capacity and pursuing excellence in Research, Science, Technology, and Innovation in teaching and learning, research and scholarship, and public service”. They also recommended advocacy for a continental commitment and strategy to strengthen higher education in Africa. At the African Union level the Heads of State agreed to create a Committee of Ten Heads of State to Champion Education, Science and Technology development in Africa, as a fulcrum for achieving Africa Vision Agenda 2063.

These efforts are complemented by a number of international initiatives including the recently established Commission for Financing Global Education Opportunities co-convened by President Arthur Peter Mutharika of Malawi, Prime Minister Erna Solberg of Norway, President Michelle Bachelet of Chile, President Joko Widodo of Indonesia, and the Director-General of UNESCO Irina Bokova. The Going Global Conference on Higher Education held in Cape Town, May 2016 stressed “how higher education can play a role in positive social and economic change” and noted that Africa must respond to the education, knowledge and communications revolutions and mobilise knowledge and science as major drivers of growth.

Objectives of the Ministerial Round-Table Meeting at the RUFORUM Biennial

The overall objective is to consider how governments can strengthen universities in Africa to ensure transformative, high quality and accessible higher education in Africa that contributes to economic growth and inclusive, sustainable development. The specific objectives of the meeting will be to:

1. Bring together a small group of senior African policy makers to discuss the findings from the Biennial meeting and consider how best governments can support efforts to transform the access and quality of universities in Africa;
2. To consider priorities and constraints to African development, and in particular the integration of universities into society in ways that make better use and retention of the high-level skills it needs for sustainable and inclusive growth;
3. To build on the commitments made by earlier meetings of Ministers and agree on key action points to be presented to the Committee of Ten Heads of State Meeting in November 2016 in Malawi to discuss ways of operationalizing these good intentions.
4. To expand the number of Champions for higher education in Africa and deepen their involvement;
5. To discuss the ways in which the cause of Higher Education in Africa can be better championed in future.

Approach and Methodology

The meeting of Ministers and university representatives will be held in parallel with the RUFORUM Biennial Conference in Cape Town, South Africa on the 21st October, 2016. The meeting will be hosted by the South African Minister of Higher Education with technical input from RUFORUM. The meeting will be informed by a key presentation on the steps taken so far in the high-level dialogue and a presentation of the highlights from the Biennial.

The following policy makers have been invited to participate;

1. South Africa: Minister of Higher Education
2. Mauritius: Minister of Higher Education
3. Malawi: Minister of Education, Science and Technology
4. Egypt: Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology
5. Senegal: Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology
6. Kenya: Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Education
7. Uganda: Minister of State for Higher Education
8. Sudan: Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research
9. Mozambique: Minister of Science, Technology and Higher and Professional Education

Venue and Participants	<p>Venue: Crystal Towers, Cape Town, South Africa. This will be followed by a Closing Ceremony in the afternoon where key recommendation of the side event will be presented.</p> <p>Date: Friday 21st October, 2016</p> <p>Time: 1115-1300hrs</p>
Side Event Organizers and Contact	<p>The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) P.O Box 16811 Wandegaya - Kampala, Uganda Tel: +256-417-713-300 (Office) Professor Adipala Ekwamu, Executive Secretary Email: e.adipala@ruforum.org</p>

References

1. Africa-America Institute, State of Education in Africa 2015 www.aaionline.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/AAI-SOE-report-2015-final.pdf
2. Hayward, F.M. and D.J. Ncayiyana, 2014 “ Confronting the Challenges of Graduate Education in Sub-Saharan Africa” International Journal of African Higher Education <http://www.inhea.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Hayward-Ncayiyana-Graduate-Education.pdf>
3. Materu, Peter, 2006 “Higher Education Quality Assurance in Sub-Saharan Africa” World Bank Working Paper 124, Washington DC
4. Montenegro, Claudius and H.A. Patrinos, 2013 Returns to Schooling around the World, World Bank <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2014/09/20173085/comparable-estimates-returns-schooling-around-world>
5. USAID, 2014 African higher education: opportunities for transformative change for sustainable development, APLU <http://www.aplu.org/projects-and-initiatives/international-programs/knowledge-center-for-advancing-development-through-higher-education/knowledge-center-library/executive-summary-african-higher-education-opportunities-for-transformative-change-for-sustainable-development/file>

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Strengthening Doctoral Training through DAAD in RUFORUM Universities

Concept Note

Background	<p>With only 20% of academic staff having PhDs in public higher education institutions in Africa, universities face difficulties in serving local needs and responding to the market demand in order to reduce poverty. Accordingly, universities need to harness higher education partnerships so as to address the current inadequacy for higher education systems in Africa and help universities provide quality training, particularly at graduate (Masters and Doctoral) level and to harness regional, continental and global lessons and experiences. The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM), a network of 60 universities in 25 African countries, has partnered with DAAD in a bid to strengthen the capacity for graduate training in African universities. The DAAD RUFORUM partnership aims at promoting international academic exchange as well as educational cooperation with developing countries through various funding and scholarship programmes. The in-region/ in-country programme has largely focused on supporting the RUFORUM's own regional training programmes at various member universities. The DAAD project directly contributes into RUFORUM's overall mission which is to enhance the quality and relevance of post-graduate education in Africa.</p>
Purpose of the side event	<p>The purpose of the side event is to provide a platform for interaction with the funded students and to discuss the progress in the implementation of the project.</p>
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To review progress in the implementation of the DAAD project – Phase I & II 2. To provide platform for interaction and networking among the beneficiaries of the project and the project facilitators (RUFORUM and DAAD). 3. To develop recommendations, as well as to put forward strategies for effective implementation of the remaining activities of project 4. Initiate discussions on how to support the settling of the grantees who complete their studies
Approach and Methodology	<p>A series of Presentations will be made by project partners and selected students on their experiences in the implementation of the project. Open discussions will follow to tease out issues for synthesis which will inform decisions for accelerating the project successes.</p>
Outputs of the meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A lesson sharing meeting report • A clear understanding of the project objectives and design by the current grantees • Suggestions to improve phase 2 implementation
Venue and Participants	<p>Venue: Century City Conference Centre, Meeting Room 2 Date & Time: Friday 21st October 2016 from 11.15-13.00 The participants of the meeting will include, RUFORUM Secretariat staff, Officials from the DAAD Regional Office in Nairobi, and selected students supported through the project.</p>

Side Event Organizers and Contact

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM)
 P.O Box 16811 Wandegaya - Kampala, Uganda
 Tel: +256-417-713-300 (Office)
 Contact: Dr Solange Uwituze
 Training and Quality Assurance Manager
 Email: s.uwituze@ruforum.org

Side Event Programme

SESSION: Hall: Century City Conference Centre, Meeting Room 2

MAIN THEME Strengthening Doctoral Training through DAAD in RUFORUM Universities

Time	Activity	Responsible Person
11.15-11.20	Welcoming remarks	Dr Solange Uwituze
11.20-11.30	Self-Introductions & Setting the Scene	Dr Solange Uwituze
11.30-11.45	Remarks from DAAD	Mr Bonface Nyagah
11.45-12.00	Project Overview - Presentation	Mrs Sylvia Mkandawire
12.00-12.10	Student Representative – Experience Sharing	Mrs Sylvia Mkandawire
12.10-12.20	Alumni Representative – Experience Sharing	Mrs Sylvia Mkandawire
12.20-12.45	Open Discussion	All
12.45-13.00	Way- forward	All

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

**Integrated Natural Resources Management Agriculture, Food Security
 Joint production of on line MSc courses in cooperation between African
 and European Universities**

Concept Note**Background**

Agrinatura and RUFORUM jointly support the creation of a library of on-line courses that are co-produced by African and European universities in the domain of agriculture, food security and sustainable development.

Twenty (20) areas or disciplinary domains are defined. Each of the topic will lead to one course, which will be allocated to one specific consortia of African and European Universities which define the content, precise the rules for sharing the tasks of production and the resources made available for the production.

Each module is therefore produced by one specific consortium of universities, who is the owner of the course. The modules are freely accessible on a specific platform to all the Universities that contribute to the production of any of the modules of the library, as long as it is for their own teaching needs. The access rights are reserved for commercial uses to the consortium, owner of the course, which defines the economic model applied for that course. Mutualisation with other initiatives to deliver on line knowledge is highly welcome and it can lead to specific arrangements.

	<p>Universities members of Agrinatura or RUFORUM are encouraged to list the domains in which they would be interested to contribute, provided project resources can be mobilised to cover the cost of production. External partners are welcome to join, on a case by case basis, linked with the resources they can mobilise for the joint production. Based on this list, RUFORUM and Agrinatura will explore options to leverage resources among donor organisations, using the principles above. Priority will be given to existing projects or projects in the pipe to which adding resources from the Agrinatura/RUFORUM side would allow to complement what is already available, or allow to produce a more consistent module. New projects however will also be considered.</p>
Purpose of the Side Event	<p>The purpose of the side event is to bring together interested parties from Agrinatura and RUFORUM to brainstorm on the proposed initiative and to explore possibility of developing a joint proposal to support the initiative. It will also provide opportunity to lesson learn and know about ongoing initiatives on e-learning for higher education.</p>
Objectives of the side Event	<p>Based on the, RUFORUM and Agrinatura will explore option to leverage resources among donor organisations, using the principles above.</p>
Approach and Methodology	<p>The meeting will be informed by key presentation providing information on the current status of e-learning in Higher education in Europe and Africa. Selected case studies on the ongoing initiatives and planned ones will be presented. Subsequently a moderated discussion including group will be undertaken and consensus on the way forward will be mapped out</p>
Venue and Participants	<p>The Meeting, Session 5.8, will be held in Meeting Room 10 at the Century City Conference Centre, on Wednesday 19th October 2016, 1430-1730. Participants will be from Agrinatura and RUFORUM Network and other interested parties.</p>
Side Event Organizers and Contact	<p>Anna Kroutilová AGRINATURA Association Secretariat Email: secretariat@agrinatura-eu.eu Joan Apio RUFORUM Secretariat Email: j.apio@ruforum.org</p>

Integrated Natural Resources Management -Agriculture, Food Security -Joint production of on line MSc courses

Table of the on-going contacts for cooperation		
Domain of the course	EU Universities potentially involved	African Universities potentially involved
Rural Development	Ghent university (Luc d'Haese)	University of Burundi (fac agri) Course prepared on paper (ADECEA project)
Food systems and food security	SLU Uppsalla Boku?	?
Agrarian Diagnosis / Farming systems assessment / Rapid rural appraisal	Montpellier SupAgro	Makerere On line Course prototype produced under ARI project
Value chains development		
Statistics and data processing		
Project management & evaluation		
Agribusiness		
Agroecology	Montpellier supAgro	U. Madagascar MOOC produced, already on line Specialised course to be developed
Farming system development	Montpellier supAgro	?
Plant breeding	Montpellier supAgro	Makerere
Plant protection		
Water management & irrigation		
Food quality management		
Food processing		
Animal breeding		
Animal nutrition		
Wildlife management	CULS Prague	?
Biodiversity management		
Underutilised crops		
Qualitative surveys	Montpellier SupAgro/CIRAD/ IAMM	Already available on line, but requires complements and traductions
Quantitative Methods and Statistical Applications	Makerere/Wageningen	started
Research Design and Instrumentation	Makerere/Wageningen	started

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Harnessing Regional Networks' Capacity to Mobilize Resources for Agricultural Training and Research through Responding to Calls for Proposals: A joint Strategy for RUFORUM and AGRINATURA

Concept Note

Background

Partnerships in agricultural research and higher education play a critical role in enhancing impact through pooling of expertise, resources, capacities and infrastructure for accelerated growth and development of the agricultural sector. Given the complexity of challenges the African Higher Agricultural Education (HAE) and the agricultural sector faces, partnerships to support African expertise are needed to jointly develop working strategies as well as mobilize resources. The need for global partnerships to support African agriculture and higher education is even more valid, given that the challenges Africa faces were faced by other continents, decades ago, and systems and technologies are in place to sustainably curb these challenges thus providing lessons for Africa to learn from. Challenges such as those related to relevance of curricular, teaching approaches, research and outreach to the prevailing community needs and threats such as climate change, land degradation and poor policy implementation which have deterred the productivity and consequently its contribution to food security and farmer income have been successfully addressed in other continents in the globe. Partnerships with institutions which have successfully developed and deployed these approaches will take the African Higher Agricultural Education and Agricultural sector to a higher level by complementing the expertise of African scientists and helping them put systems in place to deploy effective teaching and research for agricultural transformation.

RUFORUM has, therefore, been playing a central role in brokering partnerships between African scientists (especially at universities) and global experts in the field of Agricultural research and higher education to harness global expertise to transform Africa's agricultural sector. These partnerships have regularly provided a scan of African agricultural and higher education challenges as well as participating in joint development of solutions and technologies and mobilizing resources to implement them. They have also provided a bird's eye view of global challenges agriculture and its training process are faced with and adopted and adapted working solutions suiting the African situation. Given the accrued positive impact at individual scientists, institutional, sectorial levels, RUFORUM continues to pursue and implement these partnerships with institutions across the globe to strengthen capacity of its member universities to mobilize resources and streamline the teaching and research processes and practices in agricultural sciences. Of great benefit in this regard, has been the partnership between RUFORUM and The European Alliance on Agricultural knowledge for Development (AGRINATURA), an association of major research and education stakeholders in Europe dealing with agricultural research and higher education for development, a similar role RUFORUM plays in Africa.

RUFORUM and AGRINATURA Partnership

The partnership and collaboration between RUFORUM and AGRINATURA dates back to early 2000s with a development of concrete collaborative framework in May 2008 when RUFORUM, Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA) and Natural Resources Institute of the University of Greenwich and other institutions in Africa agreed to collaborate in Agricultural capacity building in Africa. In this meeting, a joint initiative on “Strengthening Higher Education in Eastern, Central and Southern Africa (SHEA) was proposed. In this initiative, a regional approach to improving institutional capacity and quality of teaching and research within the National Agricultural Innovation Systems with the two networks fostering partnerships and networking among their member universities to develop and implement actions that achieve the goals of the collaboration. Since then RUFORUM and AGRINATURA have developed and mobilized resources to implement five (5) projects and participated in joint events of each other to achieve the objectives of the partnership.

To enhance and bring to scale the impact so far realized in the partnerships between RUFORUM and AGRINATURA, several meetings have been held by the two institutions at the RUFORUM Secretariat and the AGRINATURA Annual General Assembly to identify emerging challenges in agriculture and higher education sectors in Europe and Africa. Preliminary discussions on how the challenges will be addressed and mobilization of funds through open/solicited Calls for proposals have been held. However, a concise outline of priority challenges, solutions, and strategies for implementing the solutions as well as the approach to joint proposal development as approach to resource mobilization has not been concretized.

A strategic planning session has been organized for the two institutions to outline and prioritize areas of interventions for the next five years and how resources will be mobilized through joint proposal development and other means, has been organized during the 5th African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference in Cape Town, South Africa. It will be a one day side session to be co-hosted by the two institutions.

Objectives of the side Event

The overall objective of the meeting will be to prioritize areas of intervention in Agricultural Higher Education and develop a joint Strategy for mobilizing resources through Joint proposal development.

Specifically, the meeting will be an opportunity to;

1. Discuss and prioritize challenges facing European and African Agriculture and Agricultural Higher Education and develop and prioritize interventions required to address the emerging challenges
2. Develop a framework for responding to open and solicited calls for proposals that address the identified challenges in agricultural training and research in Europe and Africa.
3. Develop consensus and create a joint AGRINATURA-RUFORUM team to develop a proposal for developing online Masters and PhD course modules, initially targeting Erasmus+ 2017 call but also other opportunities to strengthen use of ICTs in teaching, research and outreach in African and European Universities

Approach and Methodology	The one day event will entail presentation of emerging training and agricultural challenges in the two continents and loopholes in addressing them. Areas of convergence of challenges and complementarity of expertise between the two Networks will be identified. Discussion on available funding opportunities and Calls for proposals including but not limited to Intra African Academic Mobility 2016 and Erasmus+ 2017 Calls will be held. For each funding window, a response strategy will be developed with clarity of roles and responsibilities of members of the two Networks. Action points with timelines will be developed.
Venue and Participants	Venue: Century City Conference Centre, Meeting Room 2 & 3 Date & Time: 19th 1430-1730, focussing on Joint development and delivery of Online Graduate Courses, Meeting Room 10); Rooms 2 & 3 will be available throughout the conference duration for various teams to brainstorm and develop collaborative initiatives including joint proposals
Side Event Organizers and Contact	The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) P.O Box 16811 Wandegaya - Kampala, Uganda Tel: +256-417-713-300 (Office) Contact : Emmanuel Okalany Email: e.okalany@ruforum.org And AGRINATURA Contact : Email:

Proposed Meeting Agenda

Time	Activity	Responsible person
9:00	Arrival and registration of participants	Emmanuel Okalany
	Introductions	Emmanuel Okalany
	Meeting Objectives and presentation from RUFORUM	
	Presentation from AGRINATURA	
	Trends, emerging challenges and possible interventions for Agriculture and Agricultural capacity building challenges in Africa and Europe	
	Available funding opportunities	
	Way forward (Resource mobilization strategy with specifics for Intra Africa Mobility, Erasmus+ 2017 and other calls)	

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

Closing Ceremony of the 5th African Higher Education Week

Concept Note

<p>Background</p>	<p>After 12 years of successful and steady capacity building in Tertiary Agricultural Education (TAE) in Africa, the Regional Universities forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM), has become a dynamic continental platform that fosters collaboration, coordination and learning amongst not only a consortium of 60 African universities in 25 countries but also its various stakeholders and champions. RUFORUM strives to ensure that all its interventions align with major continental policy frameworks such as the African Union Agenda 2063, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP), the African Union Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA 2024), Africa Continental Education Strategy and the Sub regional Multi-Country Agricultural Productivity Programmes, to ensure that Africa has the required capacity for global competitiveness.</p> <p>In order to stay the course and remain relevant to its diverse constituency including smallholder farmers, RUFORUM focuses on bringing innovation (vibrant graduates, new products, new processes, and new forms of organization) into use in the areas of TAE and agricultural research for development (AR4D) and the wider AgriSTI landscape, together with the institutions and policies that improve agricultural performance in Africa. Biennial conferences have become a flagship convening event of RUFORUM where stakeholders gather together to deliberate on current and future trends in the TAE sector and agree on the priority activities by member universities and other RUFORUM constitutional bodies.</p>
<p>Objectives of the 5th Biennial closing ceremony</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To take stock of highlights from the Conference in terms of issues, lessons learned, challenges, opportunities and needed action • To receive reflective statements from key partners • To recognize outstanding young African innovators and best presenters. • Recommission all segments of the RUFORUM network to deliver towards RUFORUM'S Vision and mandate in the coming years.
<p>Approach and Methodology</p>	<p>The session will be presided over by Ms. Bongiwe Njobe, RUFORUM Board Member. The event will take a retrospective format teasing out highlights of the conference in terms of lessons learned, challenges, opportunities, and way forward. Key messages will be delivered by African Ministers of Education, Science and Technology.</p>
<p>Venue and Participants</p>	<p>The event will take place in the afternoon of Friday 21st October 2016 at the Century City Conference Centre, Cape Town, South Africa. Approximately 500 participants are expected to attend the closing event. Participants will include Vice-Chancellors/Presidents/Rectors, University Principals/ Deans, graduate students and other key stakeholders.</p>
<p>Side Event Organizers and Contact</p>	<p>The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) P.O Box 16811 Wandegaya - Kampala, Uganda Tel: +256-417-713-300 (Office) Contact: Prof. Adipala Ekwamu Executive Secretary, RUFORUM E-mail: secretariat@ruforum.org</p>

The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016 Sponsors



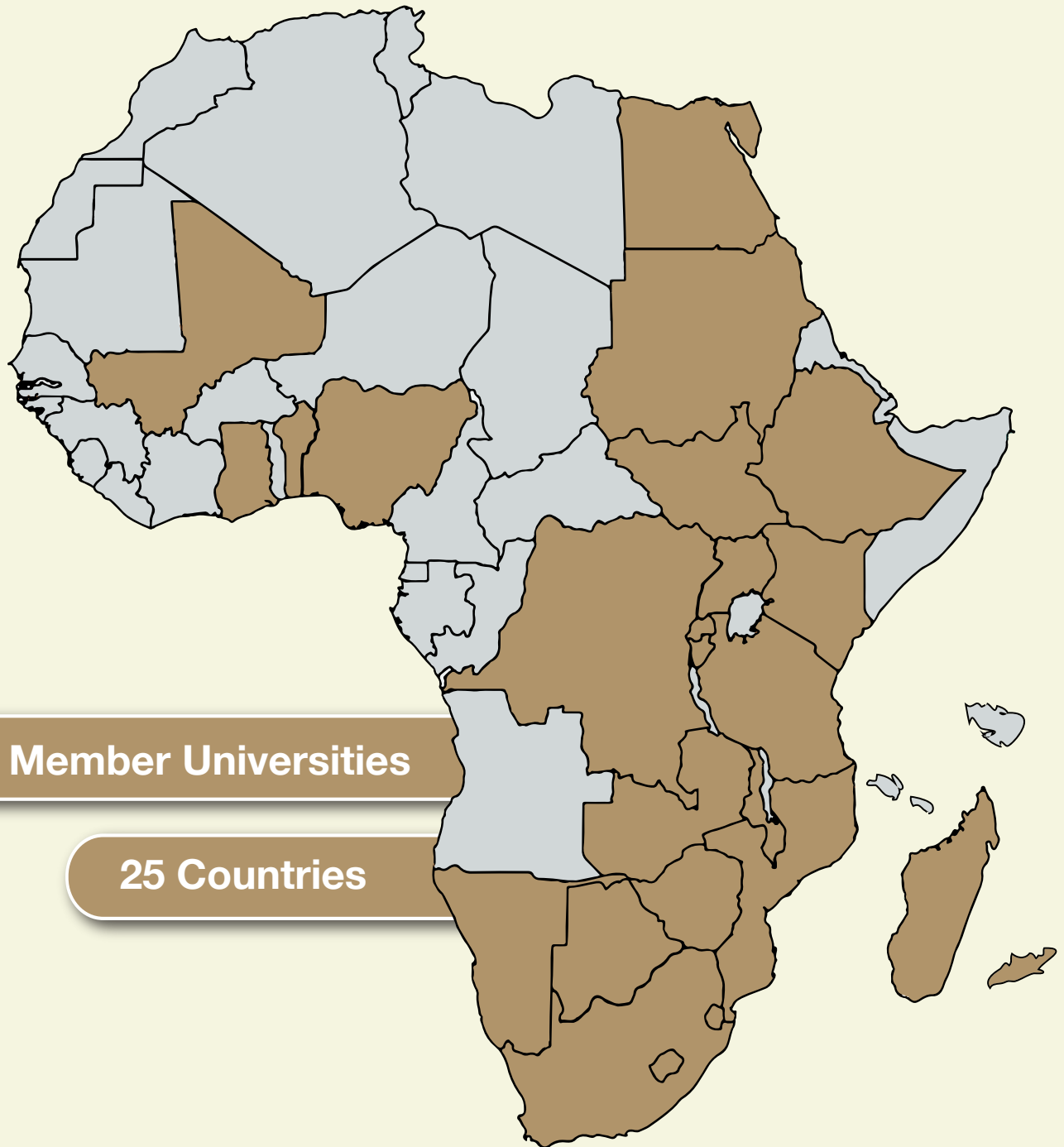


RUFORUM MEMBER UNIVERSITIES

LIST RUFORUM MEMBER UNIVERSITIES

Region	Country	No.	University	City/ Town Location	Year of Joining RUFORUM	Year of Establishment	Membership Status	Category
Central	Burundi	1	University of Burundi	Bujumbura	2009	1964	Full Member	Public
	DRC	2	Universite Catholique De Bukavu	Bukavu	2009	1989	Full Member	Private
	DRC	3	Universite Evangelique en Afrique	Bukavu	2014	1991	Full Member	Public
Eastern	Ethiopia	4	Haramaya University	Alemaya	2009	1954	Full Member	Public
	Ethiopia	5	Jimma University	Jimma	2015	1999	Full Member	Public
	Ethiopia	6	Mekelle University	Mekelle	2009	1991	Full Member	Public
	Kenya	7	Egerton University	Nakuru	2004	1987	Full Member	Public
	Kenya	8	Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology	Nairobi	2004	1981	Full Member	Public
	Kenya	9	Kenyatta University	Nairobi	2004	1985	Full Member	Public
	Kenya	10	Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology	Kakamega	2015	1977	Full Member	Public
	Kenya	11	Moi University	Eldoret	2004	1984	Full Member	Public
	Kenya	12	University of Eldoret	Eldoret	2013	1946	Full Member	Public
	Kenya	13	University of Nairobi	Nairobi	2004	1970	Full Member	Public
	Rwanda	14	University of Rwanda	Kigali	2009	1963	Full Member	Public
	South Sudan	15	John Garang University	Bor, Jonglei State	2014	2006	Full Member	Public
	South Sudan	16	University of Juba	Juba	2010	1977	Full Member	Public
	Sudan	17	Peace University	West Kordofan	2015	2008	Full Member	Public
	Sudan	18	University of Gezira	Wad Medani	2009	1975	Full Member	Public
	Sudan	19	University of Khartoum	Khartoum	2015	1902	Full Member	Public
		20	University of Kordofan	Al Ubayjid	2009	1990	Full Member	Public
	Tanzania	21	Nelson Mandela Insitutue of Science and Technology	Arusha	2014	2012	Full Member	Public
	Tanzania	22	Sokoine University of Agriculture and Technology	Morogoro	2006	1984	Full Member	Public
	Uganda	23	Busitema University	Tororo	2014	2007	Full Member	Public
	Uganda	24	Gulu University	Gulu	2009	2002	Full Member	Public
Uganda	25	Kyambogo University	Kampala	2009	2003	Full Member	Public	
Uganda	26	Mbarara University of Science and Technology	Mbarara	2015	1989	Full Member	Public	
Uganda	27	Makerere University	Kampala	2004	1970	Full Member	Public	
Uganda	28	Ndejje University	Luwero	2014	1992	Full Member	Private	
Uganda	29	Uganda Christian University	Mukono	2014	1997	Full Member	Private	
Uganda	30	Uganda Martyrs University	Nkozi	2009	1993	Full Member	Private	
Uganda	31	Uganda Technology and Mangement University	Kampala	2015	2012	Full Member	Private	
Southern	Botswana	32	Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUANR)	Gaborone	2009	1982	Full Member	Public

	Lesotho	33	National University of Lesotho	Roma	2009	1945	Full Member	Public
	Madagascar	34	University of Antananarivo	Antananarivo.	2014	1955	Full Member	Public
	Malawi	35	Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR)	Lilongwe-Bunda	2012	2012	Full Member	Public
	Malawi	36	Malawi University of Science and Technology	Thyolo, Malawi	2015	2012	Full Member	Public
	Malawi	37	Mzuzu University	Luwinga, Mzuzu	2010	1997	Full Member	Public
	Malawi	38	University of Malawi	Zomba	2016	1966	Full Member	Public
	Mauritius	39	University of Mauritius	Reduit, Moka	2016	1965	Full Member	Public
	Mozambique	40	Eduardo Mondlane University	Maputo	2004	1962	Full Member	Public
	Mozambique	41	Universidade Catolica de Mozambique (UCM)	Reitoria	2010	1996	Full Member	Private
	Namibia	42	University of Namibia	Windhoek	2010	1992	Full Member	Public
	South Africa	43	Stellenbosch University	Stellenbosch	2013	1866	Full Member	Public
	South Africa	44	University of Fort Hare	Alice	2015	1997	Full Member	Public
	South Africa	45	University of Free State	Bloemfontein	2014	1904	Full Member	Public
	South Africa	46	University of Limpopo	Limpopo	2016	2005	Full Member	Public
	South Africa	47	University of KwaZulu-Natal	Pietermaritzburg	2015	2004	Full Member	Public
	South Africa	48	University of Pretoria	Pretoria	2014	1908	Full Member	Public
	South Africa	49	University of Venda	Thohoyandou	2014	1982	Full Member	Public
	Swaziland	50	University of Swaziland	Luyengo	2009	1964	Full Member	Public
	Zambia	51	Copperbelt University	Kitwe	2014	1987	Associate	Public
	Zambia	52	University of Zambia	Lusaka	2006	1966	Full Member	Public
	Zimbabwe	53	Africa University	Mutare	2004	1988	Full Member	Private
	Zimbabwe	54	Lupane State University	Bulawayo	2014	2005	Full Member	Public
	Zimbabwe	55	University of Zimbabwe	Harare	2004	1952	Full Member	Public
North	Egypt	56	University of Alexandria	Alexandria	2016	1938	Full Member	Public
West	Benin	57	University d'Abomey-Calavi	Abomey-Calavi	2014	1970	Full Member	Public
	Mali	58	Institut Polytechnique Rural de Formation et de Recherche Applique (IPR/IFRA)	Katibougou	2016	1897	Full Member	Public
	Ghana	59	University of Cape Coast	Cape Coast	2014	1962	Full Member	Public
	Nigeria	60	University of Port Harcourt	Port Harcourt	2014	1975	Full Member	Public



Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM)

Plot 151/155 Garden Hill, Makerere University Main Campus

P.O. Box 16811 Kampala, Uganda,

Tel: +256 417 713300 (Office) | Fax: +256 414 534153

Email: secretariat@ruforum.org

Website: www.ruforum.org, <http://respository.ruforum.org>