

A SIDE EVENT CONCEPT NOTE

Michigan State University, Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and RUFORUM Present:
Developing Transformative Leadership in African Universities

Background	<p>Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR) and Michigan State University (MSU) have a long history of partnership, and the strength of the relationship has positively impacted both parties.</p> <p>During the RUFORUM Side Event, representatives from LUANAR and MSU will co-present in a Meeting on Developing Transformative Leadership in African Universities. Leaders from MSU’s Alliance for African Partnership, and leaders from the Innovation Scholars Program hosted by MSU’s Global Center for Food Systems Innovation in conjunction with LUANAR, will discuss collaborative efforts to strengthen leadership in African institutions of higher education. The meeting will also get insight from other institutions such as EARTH University in Costa Rica that have on the issue of transformative leadership at various levels, an issue that RUFORUM as a Network is also engaged in. The Partnership for African Social and Governance Research (PASGR), a distinguished institution in leadership and governance training in higher education in Africa with a broad spectrum of expertise in analytical capacity in governance issues in the continent will similarly share its experiences with the audience.</p>
Purpose of Side Event	<p>The Side Event will showcase the partnership between MSU and LUANAR, which led to the Innovation Scholars Program (ISP), a leadership development program that catalyzed a group of thought leaders at LUANAR. The main purpose of the Side Event is to provide the audience with a concrete example of how a strong partnership is advantageous when working towards transformative change within universities. Additionally, the Side Event provides the opportunity for LUANAR thought leaders to share their experience and for all parties to initiate contact with potential regional partners. To enrich the session other Guest speakers will be invited to share their experiences; these include among others; Prof. Daniel Sherrard (EARTH University) and Prof. Aina Tade (PASGR).</p>
Objectives of Side Event	<p>The first objective of the Side Event is to highlight key MSU-LUANAR initiatives focused on building transformative leadership. Secondly, presenters aim to discuss the potential of expanding the MSU-LUANAR partnership and leadership development model to other RUFORUM member universities.</p>

Approach & Methodology

The Side Event will have three parts, two panels of presenters, an interactive session, and a research showcase.

Speakers: Partnering for Transformative Leadership

Remarks by leaders from LUANAR and MSU will highlight past, present, and potential collaborations between African universities and MSU. Representatives from the Alliance for African Partnership will discuss roots of the partnership between MSU and LUANAR. Speakers will emphasize traits of the MSU-LUANAR partnership that enable the ongoing transformation of LUANAR's and MSU's leadership. Key leaders from MSU-LUANAR joint projects and MSU's Innovation Scholars Program (ISP) will discuss how the MSU-LUANAR partnership has led to transformative leadership in numerous areas. The ISP leaders will also speak about the creation and success of the program, specifically the Leadership Track designed for university deans and department heads. Select LUANAR leaders who participated in the Innovation Scholars Program will highlight how the collaborative program encouraged and enabled them to consider new and different approaches to university leadership.

To further enrich the session, a second Panel of invited speakers will be engaged to share their experiences. The Panel will include speakers from EARTH University, University of Nairobi, Pan-African University (PAU), PASGR and RUFORUM Secretariat

Interactive Session: Considering Design-Based Leadership Development

In this interactive session, alumni from the Innovation Scholars Program will co-facilitate round table discussions. Higher education professionals and others in the audience will be prompted to discuss and practice the ways in which they may benefit from a design-based leadership development program such as the Innovation Scholars Program. Topics, prompts, and discussion questions will be provided to help participants consider the concept in the context of their institution. The audience will be invited to share their thoughts with the group.

Networking & Research Showcase

Posters of LUANAR-MSU research projects will be on display while the audience networks with one another.

	<p>Proposed Schedule</p> <p>16:30 Tea Break</p> <p>17:00 Welcome and Opening Remarks</p> <p>17:15 Speakers: Partnering for Transformative Leadership</p> <p>18:30 Interactive Session: Considering Design-Based Leadership Development</p> <p>19:00 Networking & Research Showcase</p> <p>19:30 Closing Remarks</p>
<p>Venue & Participants</p>	<p>The event will take place on Monday, October 23, 2017, from 16:30 to 19:30 at the Golden Peacock in Lilongwe, Malawi. Notice of the event will be shared widely with RUFORUM member universities and attendees of the RUFORUM 13th Annual General Meeting. LUANAR faculty and administrative leaders who participated in the Innovation Scholars Program will also be in attendance.</p>
<p>Side Event Organizers & Contact</p>	<p>Kurt Richter Deputy Director, Global Center for Food Systems Innovation Michigan State University kurtr@msu.edu</p> <p>Amy Jamison Associate Director, Alliance for African Partnership Michigan State University jamisona@msu.edu</p> <p>Andy Safalaoh Program Coordinator, Innovation Scholars Program Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources ihc@bunda.luanar.mw</p>