



RUFORUM Annual General Meeting 2019

Training Workshop on Accessing Scientific Publications in AGRIS and AGORA

Date: Saturday 30th November 2019

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Concept Note

Background

In October 2017, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Regional Universities Forum for Capacities Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) signed a Memorandum of Understanding and committed to work together to strengthen the capacities of RUFORUM member universities to better contribute to food security and nutrition, increase sustainability of agricultural and food systems, reduce rural poverty and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Africa.

One of the objectives of the MoU is to carry out joint activities to increase African students' and researchers' access to FAO's e-learning resources and scientific publications on food and agriculture. In this regard, in September 2018 the two organizations organized an online course on Access to Global Online Research in Agriculture (AGORA) focusing on fundamentals of information literacy and access to AGORA. The course targeted researchers, librarians and PhD students in RUFORUM member universities. The second training course, which is included in the 2019 Activity Plan under the MoU, will target university students participating in the RUFORUM Annual General Meeting events and will focus on AGORA and the International System for Agricultural Science and Technology (AGRIS).

Aims and Objectives of the side Event

The overall purpose of the training workshop is to increase access and use of higher education research in agriculture from both within and outside Africa by African universities.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. Train university students in the access and use of the AGORA and AGRIS resources

CO-ORGANISERS:





- Increase visibility and accessibility of research from RUFORUM universities in the AGORA and AGRIS databases.

Approach and Methodology

The main focus of the workshops is to introduce two databases: AGORA and the International System for Agricultural Science and Technology (AGRIS) – two research tools that give researchers in low-income countries access to a wealth of scientific research and information on agriculture.

The workshops will provide an overview of the overarching structure of the two databases, giving guidance on how best to search through the range of research materials. A further section focuses on existing tools for accessing information to agricultural research.

Outputs/ outcomes

The Research4Life, AGORA, AGRIS training session outcome is to enable graduate students have access to high quality, relevant and timely information on research via the internet.

Venue and Participants

The side event will take place at the University of Cape Coast in Ghana. The participants will be 40 graduate students of University of Cape Coast.

Side Event Organizers and Contact

The organisers are;

- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- Regional Universities Forum for Capacities Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM)
- The University of Cape Coast

CO-ORGANISERS:





Training Workshop on Accessing Scientific Publications in AGRIS and AGORA

30 November 2019
University of Cape Coast
Cape Coast, Ghana

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

08:00 - 08:30	Registration
08:30 - 09:00	Welcoming and opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General introductions • Statements by Representatives from RUFORUM and FAO
09:00 - 10:00	AGORA and Research4Life <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AGORA and Research4Life (with HINARI, OARE, ARDI and GOALI) • Resources and search options • AGORA and R4L in Africa
10:00 - 10:30	<i>Break and Group Photo</i>
10:30 - 12:00	Presentation: How to find journal articles, and books in AGORA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Search strategies ● Using the AGORA portal and Summon Practical session: How to find journal articles and books in AGORA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Looking for a citation ● Downloading full-text ● Saving and exporting article searches
12:00 - 13:00	AGORA - Practical exercises <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using the AGORA portal • Finding books and journals via AGORA • Finding Tools (Summon and Scopus) • Commonly asked questions in using AGORA
13:00 - 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 - 15:00	AGRIS- International System for Agricultural Science and Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is AGRIS? • How does it work? What can I find? • How can I get full text documents?
15:00 - 16:30	AGRIS - Practical Exercises (Inclusive of 15 minutes break)
16:30-17:00	Wrap up and closing

CO-ORGANISERS:





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