



Side event

Towards a partnership between RUFORUM and the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases

Date: 25th October, 2018

Venue: Hilton International Conference, Ballroom

Time: 18:30-21:00

Summary

The event will introduce the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases (GRA) to the Members of the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM). A number of African countries are members of the GRA and interest is growing. The GRA and RUFORUM are establishing a partnership to support graduate and post-graduate research in agriculture greenhouse gases and will launch Graduate Research Grant calls to support this objective. Supporting the development of capability in RUFORUM member universities will be crucial to support Africa to respond to the goals established by the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as national and regional priorities of African States.

Background

The international community adopted the Paris Agreement on Climate Change with a view to maintain the increase in global average temperature below 2 °Celsius. The Paris Agreement emphasises the need for collaboration between countries to work towards reducing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions to mitigate the effects of climate change. With the centrality of agriculture in the Paris Agreement and the decision in the most recent United Nations climate change conference to begin a work on agriculture, the so called Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture, there is a need to foster partnerships and develop capacities through research.

Improving productivity in developing countries presents a great opportunity to achieve emissions reductions, while simultaneously addressing sustainable development goals relating to food security and economic development. As such, scientific understanding of GHG emissions in the agriculture sector offers countries an opportunity to better adapt their actions to reduce GHG emissions while maintaining agricultural productivity and resilience, in order to meet the needs of their population.

It is in this sense that the GRA is collaborating with RUFORUM to build international research partnerships and science capability to reduce agricultural greenhouse gases in the context of improving farm productivity and contributing to global food security. The GRA has been playing a central role in



providing practical, science-based support to countries seeking to achieve green growth through agriculture.

Event Purpose

To launch a partnership between the GRA and RUFORUM and announce a new Graduate Research Grant call for African Universities with specialisation in agriculture. The focus is to bring African agricultural universities to actively provide evidence for decision support whilst contributing to human capital development. Additionally, is to build a long term cooperation with African institutions.

Event objectives

The objectives of the event are:

- To raise awareness among RUFORUM members of the goals and objectives of the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases (GRA)
- To launch a partnership between the GRA and RUFORUM
- To launch a new Graduate Research Grant call for African Universities;
- Showcase relevant ongoing work of the GRA that is focused on:
 - Improving the efficiency of agricultural production;
 - Reducing greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing resilience; and
 - Strengthening national measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) for low emissions agricultural development.

Event delivery approach

The event will take the following approach:

- Welcoming of participants and introduction of the event objectives: Prof. Adipala Ekwamu, Executive Secretary, RUFORUM
- Opening remarks and exposition of the GRA: Hayden Montgomery, Special Representative, GRA
- Discussions (including issues that need to be mainstreamed by GRA from the African perspective)
- Official Partnership signing agreement
- Official launch of the new Graduate Research Grant call
- Any other issues/matters arising
- Dinner
- Closing remarks: GRA and RUFORUM



Target audience

Principals and Deans of RUFORUM member universities, development agencies, public and private sector entities, and non-governmental organizations supporting tertiary education or with an interest in agriculture GHG research partnerships.

Expected outputs/outcomes

- Increased level of awareness of GRA activities and objectives among participants
- Increased engagement from African States in GRA (new members and more engaged existing members)
- Identification of new partner organisations for GRA activities in Africa
- Overview of objectives new Graduate Research Grant call for African Universities;

Event requirements

Capacity (maximum no. of participants)	150
Is the Side Event an <u>Open</u> or <u>By Invitation Only</u> event?	By invitation
Room configuration / set-up (i.e. theatre, classroom, roundtable or u-shape)	Buffet Dinner event – separate tables seating up to 10 people?
Start Time of Side Event:	18:30
End Time of Side Event:	21:30
Technical needs required (please tick):	
• Projector ✓	Quantity required: 1 projector
• Projection screen ✓	Quantity required: minimum of 1
• Laptop ✓	Quantity required: 1
• Microphone & PA System ✓	Quantity required: minimum of 1
• Laser pointer ✓	Quantity required:
• Flip chart (with paper & markers)	Quantity required:
• Note pads & pens	Quantity required:
• Telephone line	Quantity required:
• Refreshments /meals (expected number of participants, please specify) ✓	Quantity required: 150 – Separate quote from Hilton already provided to us.
• Number of Participants supported requiring accommodation reservation	Quantity required: N/A



Any other special requests:	
------------------------------------	--

SESSION PROGRAM

Moderator:

Time	Activity
18:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcoming of participants and introduction of the event objectives: Prof. Adipala Ekwamu, Executive Secretary, RUFORUM
18:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opening remarks and exposition of the GRA: Hayden Montgomery, Special Representative, GRA
19:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussions (including issues that need to be mainstreamed by GRA from the African perspective)• Official Partnership signing agreement• Official launch of the new Graduate Research Grant call• Any other issues/matters arising
19:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dinner and discussions at tables
21:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Closing remarks: GRA and RUFORUM
21:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dinner ends