



The Sixth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference,

Date: 23rd October, 2018.

Sharing higher education best practices from Korea: High Level Policy dialogue

Concept Note

Background

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) point out poverty reduction, food and nutrition security as key pillars for pursuing the global development agenda. Furthermore, the African Agenda 2063 which strives to drive inclusive growth and development in Africa outlines poverty eradication as the number one strategy for building shared prosperity in the continent. However, poverty reduction in Africa is too slow to meet agreed targets. A recent report by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) indicated that extreme poverty has declined by less than 15% over the period 1990-2013 (UNECA, 2017) but over 350 million people still remain food and nutrition insecure. Education, science, technology and innovation are critical for transformation. Universities are key drivers of knowledge generation and the use of knowledge for profit making and reforms to the higher education sector are urgently needed.

Africa's higher education sector is at the cross roads. With a growing youth population and related demand coupled with a fast expanding sector, a quickly changing employment sector, with few available public sector formal jobs remaining available. At the same time, the last few decades have seen significant growth in national gross domestic product for many countries in Africa, higher than growth in other parts of the world, which is providing opportunities for both domestic and foreign direct investment. Decisions made during the next five to ten years will significantly influence the future of the sector and indeed its impact on the overall national economy. The role of universities for driving the implementation of the Africa Agenda 2063 and the sustainable development goals has not been adequately discussed. The pathways of development from other countries and the particular role of higher education in driving changes would help to inform Africa.

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Lessons from industrialized countries indicate that transformation in the agriculture and education sectors played central roles in economic transformation. In this regard, South Korea is of key interest to Africa due to its quick rate and recent industrialization. It took Korea just 19 years to industrialize. Until the 1960's South Korea was one of the poorest countries in the world with GDP per capita at US\$79, compared to over US\$30,000 in 2017. African Higher Education can learn important lessons from the experience and expertise of South Korea for its on-going transformation. To make this possible, the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM), a network of 85 universities from 36 African countries is organizing a high-level policy dialogue (HLPD) to share knowledge between Africa and South Korea with intention to inform Africa's higher education sector and its growth trajectory.

RUFORUM is a unique platform that works to share best practices to enhance the contribution of universities to national development. RUFORUM is striving for partnerships with South Korean institutions to foster facilitate lesson learning for increased rate and direction of reform in African higher education with interventions at both the institutional and individual levels. To stimulate linkages and knowledge sharing, a High-Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD) will be organized at the sidelines of African Higher Education Week and Sixth RUFORUM Biennial Conference on 23 October 2018.

Purpose of the Side Event

The main purpose of the HLPD will be to discuss best practices, experiences and lessons as well as partnership between Africa and South Korea in higher education. The meeting will also give opportunity to participants to deliberate on strategic areas that are of interest to the African development Bank's programs on education and on the important area of entrepreneurship education at universities borrowing lessons from South Korea and institutionalizing entrepreneurship education and enterprise development in African universities.

Objectives of the side Event

- Specific objectives of the side event include;
1. To share experiences, best practices and lessons on higher education, Science and Technology from South Korea and African Universities.
 2. To brainstorm on possible areas of partnership between South

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Korea and African Universities.

Approach and Methodology

The dialogue will be held at the sidelines of the RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2018 and will consist of presentations from various experts from South Korea and Africa including group discussions. Opportunities will be allowed for Q&A with guidance from the session facilitator. The HLPD will be attended by key experts, policy makers and postgraduate students (10) from South Korea; 10 African university professors and postgraduate students and; 2-3 global speakers and the African Development Bank and RUFORUM (2-3). The meeting will be attended by the African Union and Policy makers from Kenya and where possible other key partners from South Korea and other parts of Africa. The draft agenda is indicated in Annex 1.

Venue and Participants

Meeting will take place at Kenyatta International Conventional Centre (KICC). The list of participants is in Annex 2

Expected Outputs

- Lessons, experiences and best practices from Korea identified for strengthening higher education in Africa
- Strategic areas of engagement between RUFORUM and South Korea mapped out
- Linkages between South Korea, RUFORUM and African Development Bank strengthened

Side Event Organizers and Contact

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM)
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Annex 1: Draft Session Agenda

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Time	Activity	Responsible person
08:00-08:30	Arrival of guests/ registration	RUFORUM
08:30-08:35	Welcome remarks by RUFORUM Representative	Prof. Adipala Ekwamu, Executive Secretary, RUFORUM
08:35-08:40	Remarks by African Development Bank representative	Dr. Oley Dibba-Wadda, Director, AfDB
08:40-08:45	Remarks from South Korea representative in Kenya	TBC
08:45-08:55	Opening remarks from Ministry of Education, Kenya	TBC
08:55-09:25	Keynote Presentation: The role of African universities for agricultural development: lessons from Korea	Speaker from Korea - TBC
09:25-09:35	Clarifications & Discussions	
09:35-10:30	Panel Discussion: Lessons from the private sector on agricultural development and implications for university training	Facilitated by Prof. Alice Pell, Cornell University 1. Speaker from private sector in Korea – TBC 2. Ambassador from Morocco 3. Young entrepreneur, South Africa 4. Dean/ VC African university
10:30-11:00	Group Photo and Health Break	
11:00-12:00	Panel Discussion: Lessons and experiences on higher education and agricultural development for Africa	Facilitated by ... 1. Angola Minister 2. Malawi Minister 3. Dr. Joao Bosco, President, Africa-Brazil Institute 4. Prof. Alice Pell, Cornell University 5. Indian Key note speaker
12:00-12:30	Group discussions	All
12:30-13:00	Group presentations and discussions	All
13:00-13:20	Closing remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RUFORUM • Representative from AfDB • South Korean representative 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representative from the Government of Kenya 	
13:20-13:30	Housekeeping	RUFORUM Secretariat
13:30	Lunch	RUFORUM Secretariat

Annex 2: List of Participants

1. Former minister from Nigeria
2. Dr. Assia Bensalah Alaoui, Ambassador at large for His Majesty the King Mohamed VI, Morocco
3. Minister from Malawi
4. Hon. Dr. Maria do Rosário Bragança Sambo, Minister for Higher Education and Science, Technology and Innovation, Angola
5. Ivone Mouche, MCSTEP, Mozambique
6. Three key policy experts from South Korea (one from private sector)
7. 2 Korean Professors and 3 postgraduate students from Korea
8. Prof. Alice Pell, Cornell
9. Mr. Joao Bosco Monte, President Instituto Brasil Africa
10. Ajay (farmers association in india- see the meeting in Sweden)
11. Prof. Goolam MohamedBhai, Former AAU President
12. Dean from University of Liberia: Prof. Moses M. Zinnah
13. Dean from University of Cape Coast, Ghana: Prof Elvis Asare-Bediako
14. Dean from University of Felix Houphouet, Cote D'Ivoire: Prof. Kouamelan Essatchi Paul
15. Dean from University of Namibia: Dr Simon Angombe
16. Dean from Njala University, Sierra Leone: Dr Abdul Rahman Sesay
17. Dean from University of Buea, Cameroon: Dr Ernest Molua
18. Dean from University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria: Prof Goodwin-Egein
19. Dean from University of Antananarivo, Madagascar: Prof Bruno Ramamonjisoa
20. Dean from Universite Sine Saloum El hadj Ibrahima NIASS (USSEIN), Senegal: Prof Sambo Ndao Sylla
21. Dr. Moses Osiru, RUFORUM
22. Prof. Adipala Ekwamu, RUFORUM
23. Mr. Moses Waswa, RUFORUM

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24. Meeting facilitator

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