



18th RUFORUM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2022

Theme: Strengthening Africa's Agri-food Systems in the Post COVID-19 Era – Opportunities and Challenges

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION TO EXPLORE PARTNERSHIP FOR BUILDING CAPACITY FOR LESS ENDOWED COUNTRIES IN AFRICA

Date: Tuesday 13th December 2022

Time: 14:30-19:30 CAT

Venue: Jacaranda Hall, Harare International Conference Centre

Concept Note

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Background

In collaboration with the Governments of Malawi and Mozambique, the World Bank Group (WBG), Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA) and Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) are jointly implementing six African Higher Education Centers of Excellence Additional Financing for strengthening Higher Agricultural Education in Africa. The main objective is to strengthen linkages between universities in participating countries and regional agricultural sector needs through strengthening (i) agri-food systems related education and training enhanced with trans-disciplinary approaches and applied research; (ii) university linkages to the regional agricultural sector - its priorities, needs and stakeholders; and (iii) university partnership with private and public entities related to agri-food systems both within and outside the region. The six ACE II AF (one in Mozambique and five in Malawi) are to build capacity in their respective countries and Africa at large.

It is against this background that a round table discussion is organized to explore possibility of partnership for the ACE II AF building capacity for the less endowed universities in Africa.

Objective of the webinar

This Round Table Discussion will bring together Ministers from Zimbabwe, DR Congo, Liberia and South Sudan and their counterpart from Malawi and Mozambique. The objective of the round

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table is to explore possibility of the ACE II AF building human capital and research capacity for the four aforementioned countries and foster collaboration and joint actions around the ACE II AF centres in Malawi and Mozambique.

Expected Outputs and Outcomes

a) Outputs

- Joint Agreement on the needed support to build capacity for the less endowed countries on the continent
- A road map to implement the agreement;

b) Outcome

- Increased visibility of the ACE II AF on the continent;
- Increased collaboration and partnership between ACE II AF and other universities across Africa.
- Strengthened human and Science capacity in the continent

Programme

Moderator: Prof Fanuel Tagwira, Permanent Secretary, Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Development; Zimbabwe

Time	Activity
Session I: Opening and Setting the Scene	
14:30 – 14:40	Welcome Remarks: Prof. Adipala Ekwamu, Outgoing Executive Secretary, RUFORUM
14:40 – 14:50	Opening Remarks: Honorable Prof. Amon Murwira Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Development Zimbabwe
14:50 – 15:00	Remarks: Ms. Lubna Dafaalla Ahmed Dafaalla, Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA)
15:00 – 15:15	Update on the Implementation of ACE II AF: Prof. Gaspard Banyankimbona, Executive Secretary, IUCEA
Session II: Statements by Countries' Representatives	
15:15 – 15:23	Statement by Hon. Gabriel Changson Chang, Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology South Sudan
15:23 – 15:31	Statement by Hon. Muhindo Nzangi, Minister of Higher and University Education of the Democratic Republic of the Congo
15:31 – 15:39	Statement by Hon. Aubrey Lesaso, Assistant Minister of Education and skills Development, Botswana
15:39 – 15:47	Statement by Hon. Dr. Monica Musenero, Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, Uganda

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15:47 – 15:55	Statement by Hon. Agnes NyaLonje, Minister of Education, Malawi
15:55 – 16:03	Statement by Hon. Prof. Eléonore Yayi, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Benin
16:03 – 16:11	Statement by Dr. Ivone Muocha, Deputy Director, Research and Technology Transfer Center for Community Development, Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education, Mozambique
16:11 – 16:19	Statement by Hon. Jeanine Cooper, Minister of Agriculture, Liberia (Virtually)
16:20 – 16:50	Discussions
16:50 – 16:58	Remarks by Prof. Theresia Nkuo-Akenji, RUFORUM Board Chair and Vice Chancellor University of Bamenda, Cameroon
16:58 – 17:05	Remarks by Peter Wells, Former Chief of Higher Education, UNESCO, Harare, Zimbabwe
17:05 – 17:15	Remarks by Dr. Roberta Malee Bassett, Global Lead for Tertiary Education, Education Global Practice, The World Bank
16:15 – 17:25	Closing Remarks by Hon. Prof. Amon Murwira, Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Development, Zimbabwe
17:25 -17:40	Health Break
Session 3: ACE II AF Group Discussions (Moderator: Prof. Majaliwa JGM, Manager Graduate Training and Research, RUFORUM)	
17:40 – 18:40	Group Discussions (University Leaders from Malawi, Mozambique, DR Congo, Liberia, South Sudan and other countries)
18:40 – 19:10	Group Reports
19:10 – 19:20	Summary of emerging issues and way forward- Prof. Patrick Okori, Incoming Executive Secretary RUFORUM
19:20 – 19:30	Closing Remarks by Mr. Hambani Masheleni, Ag. Head of Science and Technology of HRST Department, African Union Commission

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