



**19<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
28 Oct- 02 Nov. 2023

**RUFORUM**  
Regional Union of Forestry

CAMEROON

**Theme: Transforming Higher Education to Sustainably Feed and Create Prosperity for Africa.**

## Programme Handbook



### Hosting Institutions:



## AGM 2023 PARTNERS



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations





## AGM OVERVIEW

The RUFORUM Annual General Meeting (AGM) is a platform for reviewing Network operations and receiving guidance from its governance organs, and stakeholders. During the AGM, the Network also reviews its technical delivery and engagements through a scientific session that includes, presentations, poster sessions and exhibitions. Additionally, capacity development activities are undertaken and recognition across different levels of delivery are made. The AGM is hosted on a rotational basis by member universities and their respective countries. The AGM is the supreme decision-making organ of the Network that brings together member universities, policy makers and partners to prioritise, seek guidance, share lessons and experiences on building Africa's human capital, generation of Science Technology and Innovation and relevant policy information to underpin development on the continent. In 2023, RUFORUM will hold its 19th AGM, hosted by the Government of the Republic of Cameroon and member universities in Cameroon from 28 October to 2 November 2023 in Yaoundé, Cameroon. The 19th RUFORUM AGM is held under the patronage of His Excellence Paul Biya, Head of

State and President of the Republic of Cameroon. The theme of the 19th AGM is “Transforming Higher Education to Sustainably Feed and Create Prosperity for Africa,” and it brings together Agriculture and Higher Education Ecosystem actors, Governments, development partners and key stake holders to engage in discussions that enhance Higher Agricultural and Tertiary Education in Africa. During the AGM, the August Assembly will:

- 1) Provide a forum for the RUFORUM Governance organs and Stakeholders to reflect on progress made on the implementation of various transformative training, research and development programmes of the Network;
- 2) Provide a platform for Secretariat to sensitize the Network members and Stakeholders about the second Operational Plan for RUFORUM's Vision 2030 Strategy that consolidates and builds upon the achievements of the first Operational Plan;
- 3) Led by the Government of Cameroon, profile and inform African Governments, Development Partners and other Stakeholders about RUFORUM's continental initiatives in higher education

that strengthen science, technology and innovation (STI), women engagement, and youth entrepreneurship and work transitions in Africa;

- 4) Provide opportunity for researchers and students to share their findings and innovations for solving Africa's and global development problems, and
- 5) Provide a platform for RUFORUM members to establish partnerships and/or teams to respond to various opportunities.

This year's AGM will consist of different convenings. These include pre-AGM events, side events, the Business Meeting, capacity building and mentoring sessions, scientific conference, poster sessions and exhibitions by member universities and other partners. Additionally high-level policy dialogues with Ministers, Senior Government Leaders and Development Partners will be held.





## Message from the RUFORUM Board Chair

Welcome to the 19th Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) Annual General Meeting (AGM) hosted by Cameroon in the nation's capital city of Yaoundé, at Palais des Congrès. This is the first time that such a meeting is held in Central Africa and we are honoured to host you all. This year's AGM is held under the Distinguished Patronage of His Excellency Paul Biya, Head of State and President of the Republic of Cameroon. The AGM is co-hosted by RUFORUM's five member universities in Cameroon, namely The University of Bamenda, University of Buea, University of Dschang, University of Ngaoundéré and University of Maroua.

Since our last meeting in Harare Zimbabwe, our world has continued to make progress and at the same time, faced a number of development challenges. Externalities such as the Russia-Ukraine war, inflation and local issues such as political instability, and increased occurrence of climate induced environmental challenges continue to affect recovery from post- covid economic

challenges. At the beginning of 2023, Africa's economy was projected to grow at 4.1% but is now projected to decelerate below the 2022 level of 3.6 %. Climate change has played a major role, affecting agriculture the livelihood and economic engine for many countries. The African Development Bank, estimates loses of 5 to 15% of Africa's annual GDP per capita growth to climate change and related phenomena. These headwinds have implications on what we do as a continent, and importantly, as the agriculture higher education and research for development sub-sector.

I must note however, that all is not bad for Africa with inflation steadily easing from 9.3% in 2022 to 7.3% in 2023 and fiscal balances improving in many countries. Further, reports show that this year the Eastern African community will grow by 4.9%, while the West African Economic and Monetary Union will grow by 5.1%. Conversely, Africa's Food Security situation is a mixed bag of improvement and challenges. This year Southern Africa has reported surplus-production across its major food basket countries and stabilizing prices for staple grains. Eastern Africa has experienced extreme weather events increasing food insecurity, with nearly 37.26 million people facing acute food insecurity.

West and Central Africa have similarly been affected by extreme weather the situation exacerbated by political instability in key food basket countries. Clearly, a combination of natural occurrences for which science can offer solutions, and socio-economic issues, for which solid political-economy actions at the national, regional, and global levels can offer solutions are needed.

Africa's higher education sector must remain in synchrony with its population growth, and the future of jobs trends. The World Bank estimates Africa's gross tertiary education enrolment at 9.4%, growing at 15% annually. Tertiary education enrolment across Africa is however varied, with some countries such as Mauritius recording enrolment of 40%, Ghana and Togo 15%, while Niger records 4.4 %. Moreover, investments, expertise and contribution to knowledge by African higher education and research sector are generally lower than the rest of the world, but annually growing at 3.2%.

The scope for improvement exists and as a network we can leverage on each other's strength to grow.

Dear delegates, this AGM could not have happened at a more opportune time. The theme of this year's AGM Transforming Higher Education to Sustainably Feed and Create Prosperity for Africa speaks to our imperative as a sector in developing Africa. Gathered here are Students, Academics, Scientists, Policy Makers, Finance Institutions, Development Practitioners, the Private Sector, Public and Quasi-Public institutions to discuss, engage and partner. It is our collective response to the clarion call from Africa and the World for African academic and research institutions and their partners, to generate solutions that will foster steady progress and usher in a better future for humanity. I wish you all happy and productive meeting engagements. I thank you.

**Prof. Thersia Nkuo-Akenji**  
Board Chair





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## Message from the RUFORUM Executive Secretary

It is that time of year again, when the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) brings us all together. Welcome to the 19th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of RUFORUM. This year, we are hosted by the West and Central Africa region, for the first time, by Cameroon under the Distinguished Patronage of His Excellency Paul Biya, Head of State and President of the Republic of Cameroon. We deeply thank the Government and people of Cameroon as well as our hosts the five RUFORUM member universities in Cameroon, that is, University of Bamenda, University of Ngaoundere, University of Dschang, University of Buea and University of Maroua, for tirelessly working to host us all. Merci beaucoup, thank you very much.

The theme of this year's AGM is "Transforming Higher Education to Sustainably Feed and Create Prosperity for Africa". This theme is informed by a number important mutually interacting factors that collectively, are affecting the growth and progress of the continent. The

economic outlook for our continent in 2023 by the African Development Bank and other global apex development financial institutions was positive. However, Africa's economic growth has since then deaccelerated, and is now projected to be lower than the previously projected rate of 4.1%. Agriculture a key sector, continues to be affected by both natural and human induced factors. However, compared to growth produced in other parts of the economy, growth in agriculture is two to three times more successful reducing poverty. Agriculture continues to face serious threats from climate. Studies by the United Nation's Convention to Combat Desertification show that Africa accounts for all 44 % severe droughts recorded globally in the last 50 years, causing economic losses of more than USD70 billion. In 2022, an estimated loss of US\$ 8.5 billion in economic damages was experienced due to climate change.

Clearly, climate change and weather variability, remains one of the grand challenges of the 21st century for

Africa and the World, because it affects key livelihood and strategic areas of emerging economies. Unemployment facing Africa's dominant demographic the youth, raises questions about education, skilling and jobs creation. While inclusion and diversity, the underpinning for an equal society, remains challenging. The question then to academia, researchers, development practitioners and policy is, "what steps must we take right now to address the challenges to our current and future generations?" Our resounding response as RUFORUM is in line with what Malcolm X said many years ago, "education and research for development are the passports to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today." This AGM is therefore organised around four thematic areas that capture key actions needed to engage students, academics, scientists, policy makers, finance institutions, development practitioners, private sector, public and quasi-public institutions and other education ecosystem actors in generating solutions for our contemporary development challenges. The themes are:

1. **Theme 1.** Africa's new harvest: Preparing Africa's agriculture and related sectors to feed and grow the continent's economy. This covers (a) Regenerative agriculture that addresses how to sustainably increase production and productivity; (b) Reducing

food losses, evening food supply; (c) Africa's blue economy.

2. **Theme 2.** Accelerating and scaling-up Africa's climate change adaptation and mitigation actions: Experiences and lessons learned. covers climate change mitigation and adaptation actions required to secure agriculture and related sectors of the economy.
3. **Theme 3.** Access, equity and quality of African Higher and Tertiary Education. This covers (a) Transformative education, (b) strengthening work transitions for Africa's youth and Leveraging local capacity for building capacity.
4. **Theme 4.** Accelerating economic growth: trends, youth, policy practice and futures. Theme four undertakes critical analysis of key development areas and the data thereof to inform discussions on the prospects for faster and justifiable economic growth and poverty reduction actions and policy. Topical areas include: Smallholder agriculture: Can it feed and grow Africa? It also includes case studies on enhancing value chain functionality and review of continental initiatives among others.

The AGM will also bring together key policy makers and development actors who will meet to review and discuss efforts needed to accelerate investments for transforming higher



agricultural education in Africa. Discussions on strategic partnerships between Africa's apex bodies and their key partners for agricultural research, education and outreach/ last mile delivery will be held, including meetings of the African Union (AU)-European Union (EU) International Research Consortium (IRC) platform. RUFORUM Statutory meetings and The Cameroon Higher Education Day and training of staff and students, take place prior to commencement of the scientific conference. The scientific sessions will be held through plenary and parallel sessions designed for everyone to participate. This includes poster and exhibition sessions that

will run through-out the conference, but premiered on the first day of the meeting. The entire AGM is designed as a blended (in-person and virtual) meeting. This AGM also provides time for networking with most sessions ending at 16:30 hours, in the early evening.

On behalf of the RUFORUM network and the local organizing committee I hope that you all enjoy the exciting speakers and sessions to come. I further hope that you the audience and participants take something away from the event to meet your mission of serving humanity. I thank you and welcome to Cameroon.

**Prof. Patrick Okori**  
Executive Secretary





RUFORUM AGM hosted by  
The Government of Cameroon



**H.E. Paul Biya**  
President of Republic of Cameroon



**H.E. Joseph Dion Ngute**  
Prime Minister, Head of  
Government Cameroon



**H.E. Jacques Fame Ndongo**  
Minister of Higher Education  
Cameroon



**Mr. Gabriel Mbairrobe**  
Minister of Agriculture and  
Rural Development  
Cameroon



**H.E. Dr. Taiga**  
Minister of Livestock, Fisheries  
and Animal Industries,  
Cameroon

# Main Activities

## Official Opening

The meeting will bring together over 600 delegates from across Africa and beyond, under the patronage of His Excellency Paul Biya, President of the Republic of Cameroon, Ministers, African Union Commission, Development Partners, University leaders, students, private sector leaders; farmers and farmer representatives; emerging and early career researchers and other key stakeholders. In this meeting, key higher education leaders, His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Cameroon, Ministers, and Development partners will give keynote addresses highlighting needed actions to strengthen the role of universities to contribute to socio-economic development in Africa. This will be followed by the recognition Award to His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Cameroon. His Excellency Paul BIYA, President of the Republic of Cameroon is expected to grace the official opening of the AGM and receive his recognition Award.



## Scientific Conference

The RUFORUM Scientific Conference aims to bring together leading African universities, especially those engaged in building capacity in agriculture and related disciplines, and their partners to exchange knowledge, share best practices, and discuss innovative approaches to address the challenges and opportunities in this vital sector.

The conference aims to foster collaboration and generate actionable insights to build capacity for agriculture and related sectors. It holds immense significance as a platform for exploring cutting-edge research, sharing ground-breaking discoveries, and addressing key issues related to agriculture. It serves as a nexus for interdisciplinary discussions, drawing from various fields such as crop science, animal husbandry, agroecology, agricultural economics, and agricultural engineering, among others. By bringing together diverse perspectives, the conference aims to stimulate transformative ideas and facilitate the translation of research into practical applications.



### Award Ceremony

The award ceremony is a prestigious event that aims to honor and celebrate individuals that have made significant contributions to the fields of science, research, and agriculture. This ceremony serves as a platform to recognize and showcase outstanding achievements and innovations from Higher Agricultural Institutions in the transformation of Higher Education to Sustainably Feed and Create Prosperity for Africa.



### Exhibition

RUFORUM AGM exhibitions typically bring together a diverse group of stakeholders, including board members, executives, students University academic staff and Researchers. Exhibitions provide a space for attendees to network with each other, as well as with external partners, vendors, and sponsors. This networking can lead to valuable connections and collaborations. Universities and other stakeholders often showcase their products, services, and innovations.

Exhibitions allow exhibitors to display their offerings, highlight their achievements, and interact directly with attendees to explain their value propositions. These boost universities/company's brand visibility and recognition among stakeholders. Exhibitions can also facilitate discussions and negotiations for potential partnerships, collaborations, or joint ventures. This can be particularly relevant for companies seeking strategic alliances to further their business goals.



Welcome to the



**Theme: Transforming higher Education to sustainably feed and create prosperity for Africa.**



## **PROGRAMME**

Sessions of the AGM Main Event

**Day One:  
Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

TIME	EVENT
08:30-16:00	<p><b>Cameroon Higher Education Day</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Pedagogic Complex, Faculty of Medicine, University of Yaoundé 1</p> <p><b>Introduction</b> Cameroon Higher Education Day is organized as the inaugural multi-stakeholder forum that will lead to the establishment of Cameroon’s multi-stakeholder platform for relevant training and research.</p> <p><b>Welcome Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Vice, Chancellor, University of Bamenda, Cameroon</li> <li>o Executive Secretary, RUFORUM Secretariat</li> <li>o Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Panel discussion 1:</b> The place of Universities in agri-food systems transformation and national development Moderator: Prof. Theresia Nkuo- Akenji, Vice Chancellor, University of Bamenda and RUFORUM Board Chair</p>
	<p><b>Panel discussion 2:</b> Developing human capital to meet current and emerging needs of the country: challenges and opportunities Moderator: Head of Institute of Agricultural Research for Development (IRAD)</p>
	<p><b>Panel discussion 3:</b> Engaging multi-stakeholders to support training, research and wealth creation for young people and the nation Moderator: Prof. Florence Uphie Chinje, Vice Chancellor, University of Ngaoundere</p>
	<p><b>Closing Remarks:</b> Prof Theresia NkuoAkenji, Vice Chancellor, University of Bamenda and RUFORUM Board Chair</p>

**Day Two:**  
**Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

TIME	EVENT
08:30-10:30	<p><b>Press Briefing</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Centre National de Supervision du Reseau d'Interconnection Universitaire</p> <p><b>Introduction</b> The main objective of the media briefing is to create awareness, engage stakeholders, and highlight RUFORUM's initiatives and contributions to agricultural transformation and sustainable development in Africa.</p>
11:00-16:00	<p><b>LOC-ROC Meeting</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Centre National de Supervision du Reseau d'Interconnection Universitaire</p>

**Day Four:**  
**Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2023**

TIME	EVENT
08:30-13:00	<p><b>International Advisory Panel Meeting</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres, Meeting Room: B (Blended) <b>Registration Link:</b> <a href="https://bit.ly/47y8XHO">https://bit.ly/47y8XHO</a></p> <p><b>Introduction</b> The objective is the IAP meeting is to provide guidance to the Secretariate on its internationalization, resourcing and operational strategic thrusts. The meeting provides the team of international experts to review key trends and opportunities on the continent and globally on agriculture and development in general for higher and tertiary education. The IAP provides guidance on priorities, resource mobilization, policy advocacy futures and planning among others. The recommendations then guide the Secretariat's short to medium term planning.</p>

14:00-16:00	<b>Board Finance and Administration Committee</b> <b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres, Meeting Room B
08:30-13:00	<b>Board Audit Committee</b> <b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres, Meeting Room: Complex Room A
08:30-13:00	<b>Technical Committee Meeting</b> <b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres, Meeting Room: A <b>Registration Link:</b> <a href="https://bit.ly/47y8XHO">https://bit.ly/47y8XHO</a>
	<b>Introduction</b> This Committee provides oversight of RUFORUM's technical delivery capacity. The Technical Committee will review and provide guidance to the Secretariate on the efficiency for effectiveness of its programmes. It will also key flagship projects and receive reports on the measurement (monitoring and evaluation) of RUFORUM and provide guidance on areas of improvement. It will review refreshed operational plan.

Day Five:  
Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2023

TIME	EVENT
08:30-16:00	<b>Setting up posters and exhibitions</b> <b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres, Meeting Room: Balcony
08:30-16:00	<b>Field Day/Tours</b> The Tour places in Yaounde <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Centre Touristique de Nkolandom</li> <li>2) Institut Superieur d'agriculture et de Gestion d'Obala</li> </ol>



**Day Six:**  
**Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2023**

TIME	EVENT
08:30-10:30	<p><b>Principals and Deans Meeting</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres (Blended), Meeting Room: Huis-Clos Registration Link: <a href="https://bit.ly/3OVBccg">https://bit.ly/3OVBccg</a></p> <p><b>Introduction</b> This Committee provides guidance RUFORUM’s strategic directions and operations at National Level. It provides the critical link between the operational side of RUFORUM’s colleges, faculties and schools to investments and the key thrusts of teaching learning, research and outreach programmes. The Committee’s meeting will also review new trends affecting the higher education sector in Africa.</p>
11:00-13:00	<p><b>Official Opening of the AGM and Scientific Conference by Cameroon Senior Government Official</b></p> <p>Venue: Palais des Congres (Blended), Meeting Room: Inaugural Hall Registration Link: <a href="https://bit.ly/3DRfC28">https://bit.ly/3DRfC28</a></p>
14:00-16:00	<p><b>Side Event: (TAGDev): Transformative Education: Preparing young people for the workforce</b></p> <p>Venue: Palais des Congres, Room: The Tripartite Room Registration Link: <a href="https://bit.ly/3QGj9bb">https://bit.ly/3QGj9bb</a></p>
18:00-21:30	<p><b>Welcome Dinner</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres</p>

08:30-10:30	<b>Board Executive Committee meeting</b> Venue: Palais des Congres, Meeting Room A
1100-1600	<p><b>Official viewing of posters/exhibitions</b> Venue: Palais des Congres, Meeting Room: Balcony</p> <p><b>Introduction</b> Posters and exhibitions is an arena where universities and partners will showcase new knowledge, technologies, and innovations to feed and create prosperity in Africa. Work showcased will be in the following themes of i) Regenerative agriculture; ii) Reducing food losses, evening food supply and creating market opportunities for Africa's food systems; iii) Africa's Blue Economy5: Sustainable marine and freshwater exploitation; iv) Accelerating and scaling-up Africa's climate change adaptation and mitigation actions; v) Access, equity and quality of African Higher and Tertiary Education; and vi) Accelerating economic growth: Trends, Youth, Policy Practice and Futures.</p>

**Day Seven:**  
**Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2023**

TIME	EVENT
	<p><b>Plenary</b></p> <p><b>Introduction</b> The conference is designed to increase opportunity for deeper discussions of the subthemes. It is also designed to enhance learning and mentoring, as well as networking. Accordingly, three forms of engagement will be used i.e. plenary sessions, poster sessions and exhibitions. During all these sessions participants will engage both personally and virtually.</p>
08:30-10:30	<p><b>Plenary 1: Access, equity and quality in African Higher Agricultural and Tertiary Education</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres Room (Blended); Room: The Tripartite Room <b>Registration Link:</b> <a href="https://bit.ly/446G5U1">https://bit.ly/446G5U1</a></p>

08:30-10:30	<p><b>Parallel Session 1: Vice Chancellors Forum</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres (Blended): Room: Huis-Clos  <b>Registration Link:</b> <a href="https://bit.ly/3QGlinq">https://bit.ly/3QGlinq</a></p>
08:30-10:30	<p><b>Parallel Session 2:</b> Transformative education: Experiences across the continent</p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres (Blended), Room: The Tripartite Room  <b>Registration Link:</b> <a href="https://bit.ly/3OW1qeI">https://bit.ly/3OW1qeI</a></p>
08:30-10:30	<p><b>Parallel Session 3:</b> Strengthening work transitions for Africa's youth</p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres (Blended), Room: Complex A  <b>Registration Link:</b> <a href="https://bit.ly/3OFs4Hv">https://bit.ly/3OFs4Hv</a></p>
08:30-10:30	<p><b>Parallel Session 4:</b> Leveraging regional and collaborative capacity for building capacity (case studies/updates)</p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres, Room: Meeting Room E  <b>Registration Link:</b> <a href="https://bit.ly/3qxIEAV">https://bit.ly/3qxIEAV</a></p>
11:00-13:00	<p><b>Vice Chancellors Forum</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres (Blended), Room: Huis-Clos  <b>Registration Link:</b> <a href="https://bit.ly/3QGlinq">https://bit.ly/3QGlinq</a></p>
11:00-13:00	<p><b>Plenary 2:</b> Africa's new harvest: Preparing Africa's agriculture and related sectors to feed and grow the economy</p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres Room (Blended), Room: The Tripartite Room  <b>Registration Link:</b> <a href="https://bit.ly/44d1Txi">https://bit.ly/44d1Txi</a></p>

11:00-13:00	<p><b>Parallel Session 1:</b> Regenerative agriculture</p> <p>Venue: Palais des Congres, Room: The Tripartite Room  Registration Link: <a href="https://bit.ly/3KHLTMU">https://bit.ly/3KHLTMU</a></p>
11:00-13:00	<p><b>Parallel Session 2:</b> Reducing food losses, evening food supply and creating market opportunities for Africa's food systems</p> <p>Venue: Palais des Congres, Room: Complex A  Registration Link: <a href="https://bit.ly/45aBzFy">https://bit.ly/45aBzFy</a></p>
11:00-13:00	<p><b>Parallel Session 3:</b> Africa's Blue Economy: Sustainable marine and fresh water exploitation</p> <p>Venue: Palais des Congres, Room: Meeting Room E  Registration Link: <a href="https://bit.ly/3DYusUJ">https://bit.ly/3DYusUJ</a></p>
11:00-13:00	<p><b>Digital Technologies Solutions for AI-powered Teaching and Learning in Africa (DigiTeSA)</b></p> <p>Venue: Palais des Congres, Room: Meeting Room A  Registration Link: <a href="https://bit.ly/45aBzFy">https://bit.ly/45aBzFy</a></p>
14:00-16:00	<p><b>Plenary 3:</b> Accelerating economic growth: Trends, Youth, Policy and Futures</p> <p>Venue: Palais des Congres, Room: The Tripartite Room  Registration Link: <a href="https://bit.ly/44dDk3B">https://bit.ly/44dDk3B</a></p>
14:00-16:00	<p><b>Parallel Session 1: Smallholder agriculture: feeding and growing Africa? Case studies across the continent</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres, Room: The Tripartite Room  <b>Registration Link:</b> <a href="https://bit.ly/3QJzDPQ">https://bit.ly/3QJzDPQ</a></p>

14:00-16:00	<p><b>Parallel Session 2:</b> Enhancing value chain functionality; methods, approaches and inclusive policy design: Experiences for VCA4D</p> <p>Venue: Palais des Congres, Room: Complex A Registration Link: <a href="https://bit.ly/3OZwuKG">https://bit.ly/3OZwuKG</a></p>
14:00-16:00	<p><b>Parallel Session 3:</b> Continental initiatives: Lessons learnt over the years (CAADP)</p> <p>Venue: Palais des Congres, Room: Meeting Room E Registration Link: <a href="https://bit.ly/3DV5WDY">https://bit.ly/3DV5WDY</a></p>
14:00-16:00	<p><b>High Level Policy Dialogue – Transformative Higher education financing/resourcing/ partnerships</b></p> <p>Venue: Palais des Congres, Room (Blended): Meeting Room B Registration Link: <a href="https://bit.ly/459fdnW">https://bit.ly/459fdnW</a></p>
14:00-16:00	<p>Side Event: <b>FAWoVC Symposium</b></p> <p>Venue: Palais des Congres, Room: Huis-Clos</p>
18:00-21:30	<p><b>Vice Chancellors Dinner</b></p>
18:00-21:30	<p><b>Ministerial Dinner</b></p>

Day Eight:  
Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2023

TIME	EVENT
09:00-10:00	<p><b>Side Event: Official Launching (one hour) Strategic Partnerships between African Agricultural Research, Innovation, Advisory and Education Institutions (FARA-RUFORUM-AFAAS-One CGIAR)</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres Room: Inaugural Hall</p>
09:00-13:00	<p><b>Side Event: (Closed Event) Operationalisation of Abidjan II Communique (FARA-RUFORUM-AFAAS-One CGIAR)</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres Room: Inaugural Hall</p>
09:00-13:00	<p><b>Side Event: Accelerating and scaling-up Africa's climate change adaptation and mitigation actions: Experiences and lessons learned</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres, Room(Blended): The Tripartite Room <b>Registration Link:</b> <a href="https://bit.ly/45mrKUQ">https://bit.ly/45mrKUQ</a></p>
09:00-13:00	<p><b>Board Meeting</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres, Room: Huis-Clos</p>
09:00-13:00	<p><b>Side Event: Research Data Management (RDM) Workshop (RUFORUM- LIBSENSE)</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres (Blended), Room: Meeting Room A</p>

09:00-16:00	<p><b>Side Event: South-South and Triangular Cooperation Network on climate change adaptation and agri-food systems transformation (FAO-RUFORUM)</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres, Room: Meeting Room E</p>
09:00-13:00	<p><b>Side Event: Strengthening Inclusivity and Diversity in Agricultural Higher Education (AWARD)</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres, Room: Complex A</p>
11:30-13:00	<p><b>Side Event: FAWoVC Mentorship Session</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres, Room: Meeting Room B</p>
14:00-16:00	<p><b>Side Event: Building food systems governance and policy analysis capacity in Africa (IOFS-RUFORUM)</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres; Room: Meeting Room A</p>
14:00-16:00	<p><b>Side Event: FAWoVC AGM</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres, Room: Huis Clos</p>
14:00-16:00	<p><b>Side Event: Integrating Value Chain for Development Approaches into Agricultural Higher Education in Africa</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres Room: Meeting Room B</p>
18:00-21:30	<p><b>Principals and Deans Dinner</b></p>

**Day Nine:**  
**Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2023**

TIME	EVENT
09:00-1300	<p><b>RUFORUM Business Meeting</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres (Blended), Room: Inaugural Hall  Registration Link: <a href="https://bit.ly/3YBvEGW">https://bit.ly/3YBvEGW</a></p>
09:00-1300	<p><b>Side Event: AU-EU Working Group on FNSSA</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres Room: Meeting Room A  Registration Link: <a href="https://bit.ly/3t05vWG">https://bit.ly/3t05vWG</a></p>
1400-1600	<p><b>Official Closing Ceremony</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres, Room: Inaugural Hall  Registration Link: <a href="https://bit.ly/3E0TnXL">https://bit.ly/3E0TnXL</a></p>
1400-1600	<p><b>Closing Dinner and Cultural Night</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Palais des Congres, Room: TBC</p>

**Day Ten:**  
**Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2023**

TIME	EVENT
0830-1300	<p><b>Meeting ROC/ LOC-Namibia</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> TBC, Room: TBC</p>
0830-2130	<p><b>Departures</b></p>



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## RUFORUM Network Partners

**Our work is supported by:**

1. African Governments
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the RUFORUM AGM 2023

