



The Sixth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference,

Date: 20th October, 2018.

THE 10th RUFORUM PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS MEETING

Background

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) through the Competitive Grants Scheme (CGS) engages its network in influencing development processes at community level to achieve transformation. Under its Vision 2030, RUFORUM is focused on achieving **vibrant transformative universities to catalyse sustainable inclusive agricultural development to feed and create prosperity for Africa**. In delivering this promise, RUFORUM is focused on consolidating its position as an effective Universities’ membership institution that is guided by the following objectives: i) developing quality human resources and capacity required to intensify and increase Africa’s agricultural productivity; ii) ensuring the products, processes and knowledge developed through university research reach down to value chain actors in the agri-food system to catalyse transformation; and, iii) marshalling resources and strategically allocating them to enable African universities to transform into viable institutional entities responsive to national aspirations and conditions through intensive knowledge-sharing and collective action.

One of the flagship programmes that has been operationalised to realise the Vision 2030 aspiration is the **Transforming African Agricultural Universities to meaningfully contribute to Africa’s growth and development (TAGDev)** that seeks to transform African agricultural universities and their graduates to better respond to developmental challenges through enhanced application of science, technology, business and innovation for rural agricultural transformation. The programme is focused on: (a) piloting a new model of agricultural education that connects tertiary agricultural education to rural communities through a student-centred agricultural extension model; and (b) strengthening agribusiness and entrepreneurship through “student and/or community enterprise projects”. Central to the TAGDev programme and RUFORUM overall mission to create impact on communities and improve livelihoods is the principle of University-Community Engagement - a two-way process of

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interaction, listening and learning, with the goal of generating mutual benefit.

The TAGDev is designed in such a way that there are several delivery mechanisms to ensure that the full architecture of it is realised. Accordingly, direct scholarships through the early adopter universities; Egerton University and Gulu University are offered to 220 disadvantaged yet deserving students. In order to engage the wider network, the Community Action Research Programme PLUS (CARP+) and the RUFORUM Entrepreneurship Programme (RECAP) as well as the leadership training and African Higher Agricultural Education Indicators Platform is executed. In this regard, the first cohort of 3 CARP+ projects were awarded in 2017 and the second Cohort of 6 CARP+ projects awarded in 2017. In total, nine CARP+ projects are now operation; four at Egerton and Gulu University and five in other member Universities including: University of Nairobi, University of Abomey Calavi, University of Cape Coast, Bindura University, and Makerere University. Meanwhile, the RECAPs are operational in 9 universities including: Makerere University, Gulu University, Busitema University, Catholic University of Bukavu, Uganda Christian University, University of Cape Coast, University of Abomey Calavi, Egerton University, and Bishop Stuart University. Each of the RECAPs is operationalizing an agri-business incubation hub.

Purpose of the Side Event

This 10th Principal Investigators Meeting is the first joint meeting of all the PIs supported through the TAGDev flagship programme together with all the TAGDev support students. In this regard, the meeting seeks to bring together the PIs and students for lesson learn and sharing and address issues of common concern. The specific objectives are:

1. Provide a networking opportunity for PIs and students for Cohort 1 and Cohort 2 so as to develop a community of practice.
2. Receive progress from the PIs and students with regards to implementation of projects and students individual study progress.
3. Address issues of common concern including:
 - a. Timely accountability
 - b. Reporting channels in particular use of RIMs
 - c. Branding, marketing and publicity of project outputs

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- d. Engagement with TVETs
- e. Resource mobilisation for sustainability of the action.
- f. Any other issues to be raised by the PIs and students

Venue and Participants

The 10th RUFORUM PI will be held at the Lillian Towers a long University way on the 20th October, 2018. The 9th PIOM shall involve the following participants:

1. CARP+ Principal investigators.
2. TAGDev support students
3. Students supported through the CARP+ projects
4. RUFORUM Secretariat staff

Contacts

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DRAFT PROGRAM

DAY 1: Institutional setting and perspectives

Sessions	Activity	Led by
17:30 – 17:05	Arrival & Registration	Mr. Waswa Moses
17:05:17:10	Opening remarks and Key implementation issues	Dr. Anthony Egeru
17:10-17:30	TAGDev project coordinators updates 1. Prof. Nancy Mungai 2. Prof. Duncan Ongeng	Dr. Anthony Egeru
17:30-18:30	Principal Investigators progress updates 1. Prof. Anthony Kibe 2. Prof. Mulwa 3. Prof. Elly 4. Prof. Achille 5. Prof. Annor-Frempong 6. Prof. Mwangombe 7. Prof. Johnny Mugisha 8. Prof. Nyamadzawo	Dr. Runyararo

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	9. Prof. Mugonola	
Open	Health Break	
18:30-19:00	Students updates and progress including testimonies	Dr. Sylvanus Mensah
	Students leave the meeting room	Dr. Sylvanus Mensah
	CLOSED BUSINESS MEETING	
19:00-20:00	Implementation issues a. Timely accountability b. Reporting channels in particular use of RIMs c. Branding, marketing and publicity of project outputs d. Engagement with TVETs e. Knowledge management f. Resource mobilisation for sustainability of the action. g. Any other issues to be raised by the PIs and students	Dr. Anthony Egeru/Loyce Angoku/Dr. Runyararo/Ms. Agena/Mr. Okalany/Ms. Nnam
END OF DAY AND DINNER		

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