

Call for expression of interest

RUFORUM Young Scientists Award, 2024 edition

Background

Science, technologies and Innovations have the potential to boost food production, build agricultural value chains to increase income for farming communities. Research and Innovations can contribute to enhancing sustainable and inclusive economic growth and job generation, thereby reducing poverty and inequalities.

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) is a pan African network of public and private universities (for details see www.ruforum.org). The RUFORUM network has a strong focus on agriculture and agriculture related disciplines.

RUFORUM, through its Research & Innovation programme seeks to support its member Universities to develop talents that will underpin research and innovation on agrifood systems to contribute to feeding and creating prosperity for Africa. Accordingly, RUFORUM established the “**Young Scientists Award**”. The 2024 edition of the award will be launched during the second RUFORUM Triennial Conference that will take place in Windhoek from 12th-16th August 2024.

Objectives of the award

By establishing young scientists Award, RUFORUM seeks to boost the development of impact oriented research innovations that are responsive to the demand of farmers and other value chain actors, through the creation of incentives among Agricultural Universities Research and Innovation stakeholders.

Description of the award

The RUFORUM young scientists’ award is an honorary recognition of the efforts and valuable contributions of the young scientists from RUFORUM member universities to the generation, release and utilization of impactful agricultural innovations relevant to the needs of the society.

Implementation approach

The 2024 edition is open only to scientists from RUFORUM member universities in the Southern Africa region. Received applications will be assessed against the RUFORUM Young Scientists Award criteria. The award winners will be notified and invited to attend the annual convening to receive their recognition award.

Eligibility criteria

The applicant:

- Should be a Southern Africa national, from RUFORUM member Universities
- Should be under the age of 40 (as of January 1, 2024)
- Should be engaged in research and development in agriculture and related disciplines
- Must be ready to attend the RUFORUM Triennial conference in Windhoek, Namibia, from August 12th-16th, 2024

Women are encouraged to apply.

How to apply

All interested candidates who meet the above criteria shall send their EOI (endorsed by their university) by filling out the **application form** and send to communication@ruforum.org with copy to secretariat@ruforum.org; m.majaliwa@ruforum.org; nkanime@unam.na; and s.iikela@ium.edu.na.

Deadline: 31st May 2024 at 00:00 South African Time