TAGDev Mid Term Review: Summary Report - Infographics

December 2020
Transforming African Agricultural Universities to meaningfully contribute to Africa's growth and development (TAGDev), one of four flagship programmes of the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM). TAGDev, supported by Mastercard Foundation aims to transform African agricultural education through projects and activities including Community Action Research Programme plus (CARP+), RUFORUM Enterprise Challenge Programme (RECAP), Technical Skills Development Programme (TESDEP), scholarships MCF@RUFORUM, Nurturing Grants (NG), Field Attachment Programme Awards (FAPA), African Universities Leadership and Management Training Programme (AFRI-Lead), and Policy, Networking, Advocacy and Partnership.

These projects, operating in 15 African agricultural universities in nine countries connect local farming communities, entrepreneurs and agri-businesses, Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) institutions, with their students. Deserving but economically challenged individuals carefully selected are provided with scholarships to support their entry into higher education. They receive model training and preparation which prepares them to flourish in the field through innovations. The goal of the programme is the transformation of Africa's agricultural performance in the 21st century by innovations spurred by these better trained, motivated and skilled youth.

ABOUT TAGDEV

Mid-Term Review

The mid-term review was conducted by GIC Ltd as an independent, external evaluation.
TAGDev Program Objectives

- Pilot new model of agricultural education
- Strengthen entrepreneurship
- Scale out model
- Increase collaboration and mutual learning for rural transformation

Mid-term Review Purpose

Findings to support program learning, quality improvement, accountability, and sustainability

Scope of Review

- Focused data from Gulu and Egerton universities
- Broader data from 15 universities across 9 countries
- CARP, RECAP, TESDEP, MCF@RUFORUM

TAGDEV THEORY OF CHANGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>System-level enabling conditions</th>
<th>Institution-level enabling conditions</th>
<th>Sequence of causal links within university</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Institutional autonomy and academic freedom</td>
<td>• Internal quality assurance and institutional research</td>
<td>• Appropriate qualifications, experience, and motivation of academic staff through academic recruitment and staff development</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Accountability mechanisms</td>
<td>• Resources and incentives for teaching, research, and student aid</td>
<td>• Effective enrollment system and procedures for selection of incoming students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Student support and financial aid</td>
<td>• Equity promotion and student services</td>
<td>• Favorable learning environment and research infrastructure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Funding for teaching and research</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Linkages with industry and community</td>
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<td>• Leadership, vision, and plan</td>
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<td>• Stakeholder inputs</td>
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Outcome

Engaged transformative universities, increased number and quality of graduates, increased and better-quality research

Intermediary Results Outputs & Outcomes

High quality and relevant programmes/courses; engaging pedagogical practices and more time spent on active learning activities
Dynamic collaboration, proactive multi- and interdisciplinary learning and translational research and outreach processes.
TAGDEV PROJECTS

TAGDEV TIMELINE

2016
Project inception in Gulu & Egerton University

2017
Δ 1st MCF Scholarship Cohort
Δ RECAP Bishop Stuart University & Bindura University, Zimbabwe
Δ 1st cohort RECAPS

2018
Continued growth in cohorts for MCF Scholarships and CARP+

2019
Δ TESDEP activities started
Δ Continued growth in cohorts for RECAPS and MCF Scholarships

2020
TAGDev Mid-term Review

CARP+
Community Action Research Programmes Plus projects are currently in existence in Gulu and Egerton universities and also in six other countries including Ghana, Benin, Sudan, Botswana, Namibia and South Africa.

TESDEP
RUFORUM Technical Skills Development Programme although currently being implemented in four TVET institutions in Kenya and Uganda, the MTR concentrated on Baraka Agricultural College in Kenya, and Bobi Polytechnique in Uganda.

MCF@RUFORUM
Mastercard Foundation at RUFORUM Scholarship programme is offered to students in Gulu and Egerton universities in Uganda and Kenya respectively with recipients also coming from other parts of the continent.

RECAP
RUFORUM Entrepreneurship Challenge Programme is being implemented at the Egerton and Gulu universities along with twelve other universities in the following countries - DR Congo, Burundi, South Sudan, Ethiopia and Eswatini.

PROGRESS OF ACTIVITIES

49% Ongoing activities
33% Completed as scheduled
14% Activities delayed
4% Brought forward
The TAGDev Mid-Term Review used a developmental evaluation perspective with:

**Utilization-Focused Evaluation**
The evaluation planning and implementation is conducted so that the findings and process of the evaluation can be useful for decision-making and improvement.

**Collaborative and Empowerment Approach**
An approach that prioritizes stakeholder involvement. Stakeholders gain evaluation skills during the process of working with the evaluators.

**Outcome Mapping/Outcome Harvesting**
A set of tools and framework that collects data on changes witnessed by program stakeholders. Unlike other forms of evaluation, it can capture both intended and unintended outcomes.

### METHODOLOGY

The mid-term review employed a mixed methods approach that combined quantitative and qualitative tools to deeply understand the context and progress of TAGDev, with a particular focus on the two early adopter universities of Gulu and Egerton where all four of TAGDev projects are currently implemented.

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**Survey Respondents:** 234

Surveys sent to targeted groups with general and tailored questions

**Interviews:** 81

Questions tailored to address each stakeholder group

**Focus Group Discussants:** 75

In-person and virtual focus groups in Kenya, Uganda, etc

**Outcome Mapping/Harvesting:** 13

Collected evidence of change and the role of TAGDev in that change

**Case Studies:** 6

In-depth stories captured

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**GENDER DISTRIBUTION OF MID-TERM REVIEW PARTICIPANTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Males</th>
<th>Females</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surveys</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interviews</td>
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<tr>
<td>Focus Groups</td>
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<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outcome Mapping and Harvesting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Case Studies</td>
<td>5</td>
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TAGDEV MID-TERM REVIEW FINDINGS

**Programme Design.** The TAGDev Theory of Change is appropriately nested within RUFORUM’s 2030 theory of change. However, it will need to be reviewed and refined.

**Efficiency.** TAGDev’s use of human, technical, financial, and material resources were found to be adequate and satisfactory.

**Relevance.** Partners unanimously agreed that TAGDev is contributing to their strategic priorities.

**Partnerships and Coordination.** TAGDev has been more successful in creating new partnerships than in fostering collaboration among the partners.

**Coherence.** There was consensus across all the respondents that the TAGDev programme is aligned with and contributing to many national and continental policies and priorities.

**Progress Towards Impact.** At mid-term, TAGDev may not be expected to have achieved outcome level changes, but a movement towards ultimate outcomes is discernible.

**Effectiveness.** CARP+ and RECAP were widely recognized and judged successful due to their guidance of MCF scholars to select courses and pairing them with senior researchers / lecturers on specific research projects.

**Sustainability.** There is optimism about the sustainability of TAGDev instigated reforms. However, there are risks with uncertain funding after the grant ends. Also, there are opportunities to address environmental sustainability.

**Most Successfully Implemented Programme Activities**

- **Student recruitment and scholarships:** 51%
- **Direct engagement of farmers:** 45%
- **Support for student entrepreneurship:** 29%
- **Provide support to TVETs:** 17%
- **Improvement in research activities:** 20%

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Most Successful Activities

51%

Direct engagement of farmers

45%

Support for student entrepreneurship

29%

Provide support to TVETs

17%

Improvement in research activities
Resounding success of scholarship programme

Distribution of 443 MCF@RUFORUM Scholarship Recipients

**Goal**
220 scholarship recipients after 8 years

**Success**
443 recipients after only 4 years

Targeting brightest students who are financially challenged and the programme has even surpassed the target.

-- TAGDev Partner

Transparency in scholarship selection and endless support provided

-- TAGDev Student

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**Egerton University**
MCF Scholarships 95
Nurturing Grants 59

**Gulu University**
MCF Scholarships 95
Nurturing Grants 43

**CARP+ Project Students**

- University of Abomey Calavi, Benin 28
- University of Gezira 14
- University of Kordofan 14
- Ndejje University 12
- University of Khartoum 12
- University of Nairobi 9
- Peace University 8
- Makerere University 7
- Botswana University 5
- Bindura University 12
- University of Cape Coast 8
- University of Namibia 6
- University of Free State 5
GENDER DISPARITIES GREATEST AT THE UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL

Results may be shaped by gendered ratio in the application process.

RUFORUM TAGDev proposal committed to, “At the undergraduate level, 60% of students recruited will be female.”

Opportunities exist to explore and address disparities.

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Nurturing Grants By University (Gulu and Egerton)
TAGDEV OUTCOMES

**STUDENT OUTCOMES**

**Most Cited Change:**
Students gaining skills for the job market

**Deepest Change:**
Students financially empowering themselves e.g. self employed

**Deepest Change:**
Students employing others in their businesses

**STAFF OUTCOMES**

**Most Cited Change:**
Staff capacity for experiential or practical teaching/training

**Deepest Change:** Staff preparing and presenting publication/policy briefs at national and international forums

**Deepest Change:** Staff change in attitude towards entrepreneurship and agribusiness

Outcome mapping centres people and the change they experience, capturing changes in attitudes, cognition, behaviors, relationships, etc. to demonstrate the influence of the intervention.

Shown are the most cited or deeply impactful results harvested from TAGDev interviews and focus groups.
There still needs to be more awareness of using a gender lens when carrying out research and being sure to test, or consider, how innovations are impacting women differently from men.

- Key Informant Interview 28 -

**Gender in the Tagdev Projects**

Among farmers

**Women**
Mostly involved in field activities

**Men**
Mostly attend meetings and training

**Project Leadership in Tagdev Projects**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th>Females</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CARP+</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECAP</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TESDEP</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Cost of Programme Activities 2016–2020

TAGDev Programme Activity

- Collaboration and mutual learning across partnerships: $812,618
- Strengthen agribusiness/entrepreneurship: $1,341,890
- Scale to other universities: $5,543,024
- Pilot agricultural education: $8,777,423

Year 1  Year 2  Year 3  Year 4

Millions
**INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES**

- **Website**: Dedicated website at [http://www.tagdev.org](http://www.tagdev.org) 73,432 page views
- **Blog**: Dedicated blog for case stories and engaging participants
- **Microsite**: Microsite within the main RUFORUM portal [https://www.ruforum.org/MCF](https://www.ruforum.org/MCF)
- **Newsletters**: RUFORUM Newsletters
- **Facebook**: [https://www.facebook.com/RUFORUMNetwork](https://www.facebook.com/RUFORUMNetwork) 21,986 likes
- **Twitter**: [https://twitter.com/ruforumsec](https://twitter.com/ruforumsec) Hashtag #TAGDev 7,612 followers
- **Youtube**: Site for showcasing case studies and stories in a video format 47,671 video views
TAGDev Program Mid-Term Review Recommendations

- Improve monitoring of indicators
- Active stakeholder participation & involvement in M&E
- Adjust indicators
- Review and act on M&E report
- Secure funding
- Revise theory of change
- Increase TAGDev visibility
- Grant renewal for 8 more years
- Scholars programme networking
- One-year extension
- Scholars programme networking

TAGDev Implementing Team

MasterCard Foundation
CARP+
RECAP
MCF@RUFORUM
FARMERS REACHED
INDIVIDUALS REACHED
ENTERPRISES CREATED

Burundi
Tanzania
Sudan
Benin
Ghana
Liberia
Cameroon
DRC
Namibia
Malawi
Zambia
Zimbabwe
South Africa
Lesotho
Botswana
Ethiopia
Kenya
Somalia
Uganda
Rwanda
Nigeria
South Sudan
Tanzania
Malawi
Zambia
Zimbabwe
South Africa
Lesotho
Botswana
Ethiopia
Kenya
Somalia
Uganda
Rwanda
Nigeria
South Sudan
Tanzania

LEGEND
CARP+
RECAP
MCF@RUFORUM
FARMERS REACHED
INDIVIDUALS REACHED
ENTERPRISES CREATED
TAGDev Achievements in Numbers 2016-2020

- TVET students trained: 1,046
- Out of schoolers trained: 927
- TVET Instructors trained: 135
- Number of Students associated with RECAPs: 703
- Number of Enterprises Created: 81
- Number of Employees: 209
- Number of Enterprise Members: 273
- Number of Farmers reached: 47,974
- Number of new curricula created/designed: 6
- TVET students trained: 1,046
- Number of enterprises: 81
- Number of employees: 209
- Number of enterprise members: 273
- Number of farmers reached: 47,974
- Total female fora participants: 3,043
- Total male fora participants: 4,914
- Number of courses remodelled/revised: 7
- Number of new curricula created/designed: 6
- Individuals reached: 217,954
- Number of enterprise workshops, conferences, courses & fora: 108
- Number of out of schoolers trained: 927
- Total female fora participants: 3,043
- Total male fora participants: 4,914
- Number of out of schoolers trained: 927
- Total female fora participants: 3,043
- Total male fora participants: 4,914
TAGDev MTR report prepared by:

GRAIDE International Consultants Ltd

mastercard foundation

RUFORUM Capacity Building in Agriculture