

RUFORUM Annual General Meeting 2019

Twelfth Principal Investigators Session: Monitoring and Learning

Thursday 2nd and 3rd December, 2019

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Background

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) is a network of 121 universities in 38 countries in Africa (www.ruforum.org). RUFORUM member universities are drawn together by a common purpose focused on strengthening the capacities of universities to foster innovations responsive to the demands of small-holder farmers through the training of high quality researchers, the output of impact-oriented research, and the maintenance of collaborative working relations among researchers, farmers, national agricultural research institutions, and governments. RUFORUM's vision 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 implementing four flagship programmes: i) Transforming Agricultural Universities to meaningfully contribute to Africa's growth and development (TAGDev); ii) Regional Anchor Universities for Higher Agricultural Education (RANCH), iii) Creating Research and Teaching Excellence at Universities (CREATE) and iv) Knowledge and Support Centre for Networking, Partnerships and Advocacy (K-Hub).

The TAGDev flagship aims 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 program seeks to positively impact economic growth, social development and sustainable livelihoods in Africa. This program will contribute significantly to efforts aimed at exponentially increasing skilled human resources and capacity in the agriculture sector to meet the AU Agenda 2063, as well as other frameworks such as the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA 2024), Science Agenda for Africa (S3A) and Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). The program extends the reach of universities as institutions into marginalized communities and provide transformative education that develops leaders and innovators to drive sustainable and inclusive economic growth in Africa. The TAGDev flagship seeks to: 1) Pilot a new model of agricultural education at early adopter universities that connects tertiary agricultural education to rural communities, with an emphasis on smallholder farmers; 2) Strengthen agribusiness/entrepreneurship at two universities and selected TVET institutions; 3) Scale the new model for agricultural education to other agricultural universities and

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TVET institutions; and, 4) Increase collaboration and mutual learning among institutions and agencies implementing and influencing innovative tertiary agricultural education for rural transformation in Africa.

Engagement of Universities in Africa through the TAGDev

RUFORUM through the TAGDev flagship utilises the RUFORUM Competitive Grants Scheme (CGS) to deliver on its strategic goals. The RUFORUM CGS is premised on the following objectives: i) to promote and support strategic change in higher education institutions for the enhancement of learning and teaching, by providing students with opportunities for problem-solving and practical experience and the opportunity to be creative, improve teamwork and be responsive to deadlines and client demands; ii) to raise the profile and encourage better university recognition of the grassroots demands in both their research and curricula; iii) to produce innovative and useful research that is effectively communicated; iv) to raise the profile and encourage better university recognition of the demands and needs for research and graduate skills by state, private, NGO and development agencies; v) to provide a mechanism, by encouraging multi-agency research projects, that enables universities to act as a fulcrum in the farmer, research, extension and service provider nexus; and vi) to link the universities to farmers and develop effective mechanisms for dissemination and improving communication between universities, rural communities and the servicing agencies.

The CGS is composed of a suit of grants including: Graduate Research Grants (GRG), Community Action Research Programme (CARP), RUFORUM Entrepreneurship Challenge Programme (RECAP), Technical Skills Development Programme (TESDEP), Field Attachment Programme Awards (FAPA), Institutional Strengthening Grants (ISGs), and Doctoral Training and Research Grants (DTRG). Through these grants, RUFORUM hopes to contribute to university outreach and to its potential as an impartial national and regional platform for all stakeholders to engage in the value chain. The CGS emphasizes linking faculty and students with rural communities, promoting inter-disciplinary research and encouraging multi-agency research teams to create impact across the region. The CGS gives universities opportunities to encourage participatory research by faculty and students working in partnerships with the farmers and other agencies involved in research and development.

Community Action Research Programme PLUS (CARP+)

The CARP+ Program was initiated in 2016, building on the CARP, to encourage universities to develop and invest in more comprehensive and sustained action research and to establish a “platform” for engagement with all the stakeholders but with particularly focus on vocational training. CARP+ aims to respond to the high number of youth entering the workforce with limited practical skills, provide

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opportunities for enhancing skills development for youth by engaging with the TVET sector. The CARP+ represents a new dimension of seeking to link universities with TVET institutions and enhancing their transformative role. As such, it is an innovative initiative to increase deepening of university engagement with rural communities, private sector and TVET institutions as well as policy and decision leaders. It thus supports enhancing impact of university activities on small holder farmers, strengthen university community outreach, supports value chains development and capacity and experiential learning within universities and TVET institutions. There are currently

RUFORUM Entrepreneurship Challenge Programme (RECAP)

The RUFORUM Entrepreneurship Challenge Program (RECAP) is an innovative program that builds on the successful student enterprise scheme operated by Gulu University and Egerton University through which student business ideas are incubated with technical assistance and financial capitation through a revolving fund. The RECAP has been expanded into an accelerator program that is institutionalized at an applicant member university to facilitate student’s innovation and business incubation. Through the RECAP, agricultural universities have the opportunity to establish Agribusiness incubation Centres (AIC) as part of operationalizing the Entrepreneurship Challenge Program to foster the further development of innovative business ideas leading to products and/or services on national to regional scale. The AIC serves as a hub that provides opportunity to students and other innovators and entrepreneurs to design and validate their business models and products and test their viability for success in the real world.

Technical Skills Development Programme (TESDEP)

The TESDEP programme is designed as an interface for Universities to directly engage with the Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) institutions including ATVETs. The focus is to enhance the educational value chain whilst allowing the university graduates and TVET students to co-learn, co-innovate, and co-skill as well as co-design and at the same time allow the university and TVET trainers similarly engage. There are several component parts with the TESDEP that the Universities and TVETs can involve in as part of the transformation agenda. The TESDEP programme is relatively new within RUFORUM being championed primarily under the TAGDev flagship. Under the TESDEP, the Out-of-School Youth Training programme is run as part of skilling the youth with practical skills for rural transformation as well as for transitioning their enterprises into profitable mode to confer a dignified livelihood.

Field Attachment Programme Awards (FAPA)

The FAPA is an intervention to link universities to communities and to prevent universities from being extractive in terms of knowledge from communities. This is because RUFORUM attaches great

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importance to preparation of graduates and other students for relevance and transition to industry. Accordingly, RUFORUM runs an adaptable FAPA programme that facilitates placement of students to industry, research centres, and provides a framework for mentorship as the students prepare for transition to the world work. Through the FAPA students that are supported under the RUFORUM CGS projects have the opportunity to competitively secure funding to disseminate their research within the communities where they undertook research and/or in other communities that require such technologies. The dissemination is undertaken as part of an industry attachment for a period of 3-6 months with the supervision of institutions that the graduate fellow is attached. As such, this programme is critical in closing the gap between theory and practice and increasing collaboration between universities, research centres and industry and increasing the level with which students engage with communities in knowledge sharing.

Institutional strengthening grants/Nurturing grant

The institutional strengthening grants also known as the Nurturing grants is a catalytic funding instrument that is used by RUFORUM to engage with universities in the network to initiate transformative programmes, ideas and innovations at university level and/or community level. This funding instrument is non-competitive and is often based on a commissioned mission, direct engagement and discussion with country governments and/or respective universities. It is also based on the declarations of the Board and the AGM. Based on the resolutions of the Board/AGM the Secretariat undertakes to identify member universities that are willing to serve as pilot institutions for such initiatives depending on funding availability. The TAGDev programme was founded through the Nurturing when Gulu University and Egerton University undertook the leadership to pilot a modified unique training model from EARTH University following the visit to Costa Rica by seven African Vice Chancellors. It is only two of the seven Vice Chancellors that upon return, positively responded to pilot what they had seen during the Costa Rica mission.

Purpose of 12th Monitoring and Learning Session

This 12th Principal Investigators monitoring and learning session is unique in that it brings a convergence of all projects granted under the TAGDev project. It is also first time the Mastercard Foundation will be meeting all the project implementers. Therefore, the objectives of this 12th session of Principal Investigators meeting are:

1. Interface with Mastercard Foundation team and appreciate the Foundation's Young Africa Works Strategy
2. Receive progress updates and dialogue within and among Principal Investigators and partners to enhance co-learning

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- Address implementation processes that facilitate implementation for impact and sustainability.

Meeting Approach

This meeting is constructed in the form of a participatory dialogue that allows for co-learning, co-production and generation of ideas that enrich the quality of programme implementation. It will be a facilitated dialogue with interventions of experts and technocrats from time to time where need be.

The 12th Principal Investigators Monitoring and Learning Meeting Programme

Time	Activity	Responsible person
08:00-08:30	Arrival, registration and networking	Dr. Hatim Elmin, Programme Officer Youth Development
08:00-08:15	Welcome remarks and programme overview	Dr. Anthony Egeru, Programme Manager, Training and Community Development, RUFORUM
08:00-09:00	Introductions	All participants
Session one: Laying the foundation		
09:00-09:30	Young Africa Works: A momentum for dignified employment for young Africans	Ms. Shona Bezanson, Associate Director, Mastercard Foundation
09:30-09:45	Discussion and feedback on Young Africa Works	Mr. Andre Okunzuwa, Associate Programme Manager, Mastercard Foundation
09:45-10:20	EARTH University: Joint learning on transformation through south-south partnership	Prof. Daniel Sherrard, EARTH University
10:20-10:40	Egerton University: a transformation journey	Prof. Nancy Mungai, TAGDev Coordinator, Egerton University
10:40-11:00	Gulu University: a transformation journey	Prof. Duncan Ongeng, TAGDev Coordinator, Gulu University
11:00-11:20	Discussion and feedback session	All participants
11:20-11:50	HEALTH BREAK	
Session Two: Engaging Communities, Delivering Impact		
11:50-12:45	Roots and tubers Value Chains 1. Cassava CARP+ University of	

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	<p>Nairobi, Kenya</p> <p>2. Cassava CARP+ Egerton University, Kenya</p> <p>3. Potato CARP+ Makerere University, Uganda</p> <p>4. Potato CARP+ Egerton University, Kenya</p>	<p>1. Prof. Agnes Mwang'ombe</p> <p>2. Prof. Richard Mulwa</p> <p>3. Prof. Johnny Mugisha</p> <p>4. Prof. Anthony Kibe</p>
12:45-13:00	<p>Oil Seeds Value Chain</p> <p>1. Safflower CARP+ Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Botswana</p>	Prof. Vallantino Emongor
13:00-14:00	HEALTH BREAK	
14:00-15:00	<p>Livestock, feeds and grains Value Chains</p> <p>1. Pig CARP+, Gulu University, Uganda</p> <p>2. Wool CARP+ Free State University, South Africa</p> <p>3. Rice CARP+ Gulu University, Uganda</p> <p>4. Rainwater harvesting-Grain and Legumes CARP, Bindura University, Zimbabwe</p>	<p>1. Dr. Elly Ndyomugenyi</p> <p>2. Dr. Jan Swanepoel</p> <p>3. Prof. Basil Mugonola</p> <p>4. Prof. George Nyamazadwo</p>
15:00-16:00	<p>Natural Resources Management and Valorization Value Chains</p> <p>1. Baobab CARP+ University of Abomey Calavi, Benin</p> <p>2. Encroacher Bushes CARP+ University of Namibia, Sudan</p> <p>3. Beekeeping Mini-CARP, Peace University, Sudan</p> <p>4. Natural Resources Management in Kordofan, University of Kordofan, Sudan</p>	<p>1. Prof. Achille Assogbadjo</p> <p>2. Prof. Simon Angombe</p> <p>3. Prof. Idris Ahmed</p> <p>4. Prof. Haroon Wail</p>
16:00-16:30	HEALTH BREAK	

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16:30-17:10	Fruits and Vegetables and other Value Chains <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pineapple CARP+ University of Cape Coast, Ghana 2. Vegetables Mini-CARP, University of Gezira, Sudan 3. Indigenous coping systems, University of Khartoum, Sudan 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof. Anor-Frempong 2. Prof. Muna Mohamed Elhag 3. Prof. Elkhalil Elhadi Ali Ibrahim
17:10-18:00	Financial Management for sustainability	PKF, RUFORUM External Auditor
18:00	END OF DAY ONE SESSION	

Day Two 3rd December, 2019: Catalysing Entrepreneurship among African Youth

18:30-19:00	Arrival and Registration	Dr. Hatim Elamin
19:00-20:00	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bishop Stuart Hub, Uganda 2. Gulu University hub, Uganda 3. Egerton University hub, Uganda 4. Uganda Christian University hub, Uganda 5. Bukavu Hub, DR. Congo 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. Rebecca Kalibwani 2. Dr. Walter Odong 3. Prof. Patience Mshenga 4. Mr. Samuel Kalimunjaye 5. Dr. Espoir Bisimwa
20:00-20:45	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Start-up Valley, University of Abomey Calavi University, Benin 2. University of Cape Coast hub, Ghana 3. Makerere University hub, Uganda 4. Busitema University, Uganda 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Serge Abihona 2. Prof. William Ghartey 3. Prof. Bernard Bashaasha 4. Ms. Dianah Asero
20:45-21:45	Joint Panel of Newly granted hubs <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Muni University 2. University of Burundi 3. University of Eswatini 4. University of Juba 5. South Eastern Kenya University (SEKU) 6. Ndejje University 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. Alfred Alumai 2. Prof. Juma Shabani 3. Prof. J. S. Shelembe 4. Prof. Julius Kilungo 5. Dr. Maria Mbatudde 6. Dr. Lazarus Pierentino Lugoi

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	7. Haramaya University	7. Getachew Shamble
21:45-22:45	DINNER AND NETWORKING	Ms. Loyce Angoku

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