The 7th Africa Higher Education Week 2021 - Cotonou, Benin



08-December, 2021 | Volume 1, Issue 05

A Daily Brief on the 7th Africa Higher Education Week #AfricaHEWeek2021

### Auto-Biography Premier: A documentary on the Journey of Prof. Adipala Ekwamu



We are proud to premier a documentary on the extraordinary life of the RUFORUM Executive Secretary Adipala Ekwamu. Filmed over Seven (7) years by Award Winning South African Documentary Filmer Maker Joanna Higgs from <u>Go Trolley Films</u>.

This Story is Intimate, Honest and Inspiring message that is not just a story of Adipala himself but every person who has being ignited by RUFORUM to build the *"Africa We Want."* Please join us for the premier of the film entitled *"* <u>A CHANCE TO SUCCEED: Adipala to the World</u>".

This film was made in conjunction with Prof. Adipala Ekwamu's autobiography written by <u>Megan Lilldow</u>, entitled "<u>UNFINISHED</u> <u>JOURNEY: Memories of the road travelled</u>". Click here to <u>view the</u> <u>trailer</u>.

<u>Viewing Time</u> Thursday 9th December, 2021 | Venue: Golden Trip Hotel Time: 18:00 - 21:00 (WAT)

### Staying Safe during the RUFORUM Triennial Conference

#### Inside this Issue:

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RUFORUM extends appreciation to the RUFORUM Board, the World Health Organisation and Africa Union Commission through the Africa Centre for Disease Control for the work you have done to help Africa cope with the COVID-19 pandemic. We thankful to all other organisations including our National Governments for the work done towards managing the COVID-19 pandemic, and efforts towards economic recovery of the African continent.

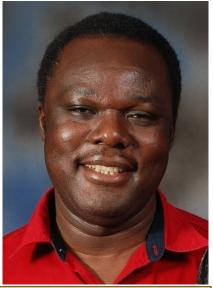
The COVID-19 pandemic exposed key gaps in Africa's Science capacity to respond to the COVID-19 and other global challenges and clearly showed the urgent need for Africa to make significant and sustained investment in Science, Technology and Innovation. We encourage all participants to follow the safety guidelines by the Government of Benin. <u>Click here for more Information on COVID-19 testing and Results.</u>

Contact Us: <a href="mailto:secretariat@ruforum.org">secretariat@ruforum.org</a> | Website: <a href="mailto:www.ruforum.org">www.ruforum.org</a> | Join the Conversation using #AfricaHEWeek2021</a>

### Promoting Youth Employment and Skills Acquisition for Enhanced Continental Growth

Africa is uniquely endowed with human and natural resources that have the potential to yield inclusive growth and eradicate poverty in the region, enabling Africans across the continent to live healthier and more prosperous lives. The current population of Africa stands at 1.3 billion, and this has been projected to nearly double in size by 2050 (AfDB, 2020). The continent has the world's youngest population which is growing rapidly with almost 60% of its population under the age of 25 years (Penar, 2021).

Even though young people are understandably Africa's most important source of human capital and a driver of development, a report by the International Labour Organization on the Global Employment Trends for the Youth in Africa indicates that majority of this population segment is unemployed or under-employed (ILO, 2020). The youth in Africa are confronted with multiple challenges key among them the visibly inadequate decent jobs despite the recent strong growth performance of many African countries (AfDB, 2020). The COVID-19 pandemic currently in its second year has disrupted livelihoods worldwide through the dual channels of heightened health risks and interruption of economic activities. <u>Click here to Read More.</u>



Dr. Juma Mukhwana; Director General, Kenya National Qualifications Authority

"Universities for a while have remained as islands without many links to communities around them, but it is time they realised that they cannot do much on their own, thus the need to embrace everybody" **Prof. Adipala Ekwamu, Executive Secretary – RUFORUM** 

# The Making of the 'Next Generation' African University: Response to Global and Regional Trends and National Agendas



Prof. John Akec - Vice Chancellor of the University of Juba, South Sudan and is Chairperson of the Board of Directors of South Sudan National Communication Authority

Higher education reform is shaped by developments at university (Keeling 2006). The making of the 'Next Generation' African university won't be easy. The African university is relatively a new entrant in the global higher education landscape, compared to European and American counterparts whose histories date back to medieval era and seventeenth century at the very least.

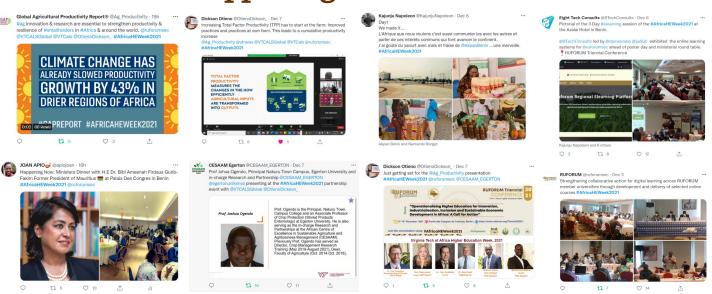
Unlike the British and French university systems it was purported to replicate, African university fell short of Oxbridge's and grande école's models. Instead, the goal of the founders had focused on training administrators for need of immediate colonial governments, as well educating the political elite of post-independence era (Cloete and Maasen 2015).

Furthermore, the expansion and development of African higher education sector, especially in the Sub-Sahara region, was slowed down from mid 1980s by a change of tone in World Bank's higher education policy. <u>Click here to Read More</u>.

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## What's happening on Social Media?



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Conference Co-Organizers:
Contact Us: secretariat@ruforum.org



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