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Partnerships and Networking for Strengthening Agricultural Innovation and Higher Education in Africa

Extended Abstracts

Part 2 of 3

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Authors contacts

G. Tusiime: College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, School of Agricultural Sciences, Department of Agricultural Production, Makerere University, P. O. Box 7062, Kampala, Uganda, Email: gtusiime@agric.mak.ac.ug

J.G. Majaliwa Mwanjololo: College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, School of Agricultural Sciences, Makerere University, P.O. Box 7062, Kampala, Uganda, Email: majaliwam@hotmail.com, majaliwam@gmail.com

P. Nampala: Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture, Plot 151 Garden Hill, Makerere University, P. O. Box 7062, Kampala, Uganda, Email: p.nampala@ruforum.org

E. Adipala: Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture, Plot 151 Garden Hill, Makerere University, P. O. Box 7062, Kampala, Uganda, Email: e.adipala@ruforum.org

RUFORUM and Biennial Conference

RUFORUM: The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) is an umbrella organization of 29 universities based in 17 countries in Eastern, Central and Southern Africa. It serves to promote integration of university research, training and outreach into Africa's development agenda. This task is addressed not only through better trained graduates entering the rural development work force, but also by conducting more relevant and development-oriented research that is directly linked to participatory outreach programmes.

The Biennial Conference: The 2012 RUFORUM Biennial Conference is the third in the series. The main objective of the Biennial conferences is to provide a platform for agricultural research for development stakeholders in Africa and beyond to actively exchange findings and experiences, while at the same time learning lessons towards improving performance of the agricultural sector and ultimately people's livelihoods. The biennial conference is RUFORUM's most comprehensive meeting for the diversity of stakeholers in agriculture. It is especially dedicated to graduate students and their supervisors, grantees in RUFORUM member universities and alumni. It is a platform for peer review, quality control, mentorship, networking and shared learning. The third Biennial Conference was attended by 657 participants.

Partnerships and Networking for Strengthening Agricultural Innovation and Higher Education in Africa

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Editors

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Foreword

The Conference on *Partnerships and Networking for Strengthening Agricultural Innovation and Higher Education in Africa* was jointly organised by Gulu University, Kyambogo University, Makerere University, Uganda Martyrs University, National Agricultural Advisory Services, National Agricultural Research Organisation and the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM). The organisation of the Conference was co-funded by the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa, International Development Research Centre, Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation and the World Bank. A diversity of papers were presented that addressed development challenges in Africa and Research and Development efforts being undertaken in different parts of the continent. Case studies from outside Africa were also presented. The papers, published as part of RUFORUM Working Document Series No. 7 are available in three parts (Part 1, Part 2 and Part 3) and have been posted online at www.ruforum.org and www.mak.ac.ug

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