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A weekly digest of News, Events and Opportunities

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM RUFORUM BIENNIAL CONFERENCE 2016

- Africa must invest in people: Mauritian President Ameenah Gurib-Fakim
- RUFORUM Vice-Chancellors commit to producing 325 more agriculture PhDs
- Reaching the farmer
- The future of university funding and the private sector
- Showcasing excellence in youth innovations in Africa
- Alliances key to quality higher education in Africa
- Celebrating excellence as RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016 draws to a close

OTHER NEWS

- The JKUAT Master's in Research Methods: what a course!
- Testimony of career opportunities for young scholars in agricultural sciences
- New partnership boosts efforts to transform agricultural education in Africa
- New initiative to promote continental quality assurance
- Are universities doing enough to foster women leaders?

PUBLICATIONS

- Hydro-period, surface-ground water interactions and water quality to assess wetland condition of Khalong-la-Lithunya (Mots'ets'e, 2016)
- Spatial variability of hydric soil properties to delineate Khalong-la-Lithunya Wetlands (Rasekoele, 2016)
- 2016 Global Agricultural Productivity Report (Zeigler & Steensland, 2016)
- Continental Education Strategy for Africa 2016 2025 (African Union, 2016)
- CTA Top 20 innovations that benefit smallholder farmers (Francis, 2016)
- The economic impact of universities: evidence from across the globe (Valero & Van Reenen, 2016)

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OPPORTUNITIES

Grants and Awards:

- Call for proposals from the Michigan State University-based Alliance for African Partnership (AAP) **Deadline**: 21 November 2016
- AU-TWAS Young Scientist National Awards 2016. For young scientists in Africa in two categories: life and earth sciences; and basic sciences, technology, and innovation. Deadline: 21 November 2016
- NWO-WOTRO Science for global development has launched the last round of the third call for proposals for the Food & Business Applied Research Fund (ARF). Deadline: 6 December 2016
- (New) Innovation Prize for Africa 2017 to promote home-grown solutions for Africa's prosperity. Thematic areas include agriculture/agribusiness, environment, health, and ICTs. Deadline: 3 January 2017
- (New) Call for grant applications: Mitsubishi Corporation Fund for Europe and Africa. The MCFEA Grant Program supports research focused on environment and the alleviation of poverty. Deadline: 31 March 2017
- (New) 2017 Agropolis Fondation Louis Malassis International Scientific Prize for Agriculture and Food. Deadline: 25 January 2017
- (New) 2017 Olam Prize for Innovation in Food Security. Deadline: 25 January 2017
- (New) IMMANA Fellowships- Postdoctoral Fellowships on Innovative Methods and Metrics for Agriculture and Nutrition Actions. Deadline: 1 February 2017
- (New) 2017 Erasmus + call. Funding from the European Commission for actions including capacity building in the field of higher education. Deadline: Various deadlines from 2 February to 4 October 2017
- (New) DFID SPHEIR call for partnership proposals. Funding aimed at catalysing innovation and reform in higher education systems in developing countries. Deadline: 20 February 2017
- The Africa Biosciences Challenge Fund 2016/2017 for scientists employed within African National Agricultural Research Systems. Applications will be accepted on an on-going basis until 30 June 2017
- NEPAD-SANBio mobility grants to support regional and international travel and accommodation for individuals in the Biosciences field. Deadline: Open till December 2018
- WIOMSA Marine Research Grants Programme. Supports young scientists to present research results at various fora. Applications for travel grants can be submitted anytime

Scholarships and courses:

- (New) New FAO e-learning module on Improving Nutrition through Agriculture and Food Systems
- Pitching your business ideas for investment. A self-paced online course on best practices for developing a pitch to potential investors. Certificates available.

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- Swiss Government excellence scholarships for foreign scholars, 2017-2018. Available to postgraduate researchers in any discipline. Deadline: Varies per country, from September-December 2016
- German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) postgraduate scholarships 2017-2018 for study of developmentrelated subjects at German universities. Deadlines vary by course.
- Beca-ILRI/John Innes Centre Workshop call: Advancing cereals genetic research using the latest genomic and germplasm resources. 31 January-3 February, 2017, Nairobi. Deadline: 10 November 2016
- Commonwealth Scholarships 2017 for master's and PhD studies in the UK for citizens of developing Commonwealth countries. Scholarships are awarded across all subjects. Deadline: 15 November 2016.
- Smithsonian Institution Fellowship Program 2017. Awards include: graduate student, pre-doctoral, postdoctoral and senior fellowships. Open to qualified applicants worldwide. Deadline: 1 December 2016
- Australia Awards for Africa, 2017. Scholarships for master's degree studies and short courses in Australia and/or Africa. Deadline: Varies by course between 15 December 2016 and 15 January 2017
- METEGA mobility scholarships for staff exchange. Deadline: 31 January 2018
- Nestlé Foundation grants for research in human nutrition in low-income and lower middle-income countries. Support includes grants for Masters and PhD projects. Applications accepted all year round
- (New) Next Generation Social Sciences in Africa: Doctoral Dissertation Completion Fellowship for social science research in Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda. Deadline: 18 November 2016
- (New) Afrique One-ASPIRE fellowships for 5 postdoc, 15 PhD and 18 master's fellows. Thematic areas include foodborne diseases, brucellosis and surveillance-response. Deadline: 20 November 2016
- (New) Call for applications for the Africa Science Leadership Programme 2017 Early-to mid-career researchers in all disciplines are invited for this leadership skills training. Deadline: 16 December 2016

Calls for papers:

- (RUFORUM call) Call for manuscripts: African Journal for Rural Development. Regular articles, short communications and reviews accepted. Deadline: Open
- Call for abstracts for presentations at the InterDrought-V Conference, India, 21 -25 February 2017. **Deadline:** 15 November 2016 for oral presentations; 15 December 2016 for poster presentations.
- (New) Call for papers extended: Symposium on Rainwater-Smart Management in Sub-Saharan Africa, Nairobi, Kenya, 1st -2nd February 2017. **Deadline: 15 November 2016.**
- (New) The African Academy of Sciences invites submission of articles for the next issue of "Science*Policy*Africa. Deadline: 15 November 2016.
- (New) Call for abstracts for the Fourth International Symposium on Postharvest Pathology: Skukuza, South Africa, 28 May - 3 June 2017. Deadline: 30 November 2016

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Jobs:

- (New) ILRI: Regional Program Leader CCAFS based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Deadline: 2 December 2016
- (New) ILRI: Performance and Partnerships Manager based in Nairobi, Kenya. Deadline: 2 December 2016

FEATURED VIDEO: RUFORUM 2016: Enlarging SU's African Footprint













