NEWS

- Goodwill message from RUFORUM to the Association of African Universities on the inauguration of its East Africa Office in Khartoum
- Media monitoring: Higher Education News in Africa
- Future leaders’ fellowship gives PhDs a reason to stay
- Improving the quality of university education in Africa
- A healthy circulation of talent mobility boosts quality

EVENTS

- (RUFORUM event) Proposal Development Write-shop for submissions to the African Union Research Grants Call for Proposals 2018, 16-20 April 2018, Kampala, Uganda
- Improving Fertilizer Quality for Highly Productive Agriculture: Lessons From Country Assessments and Regulatory Systems in Africa and Asia, 7-11 May 2018, Arusha, Tanzania
- Seedbeds of Transformation: the Role of Science with Society and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Africa conference, 9 - 11 May, Port Elizabeth, South Africa
- 4th IAAALD (International Association of Agricultural Information Specialists) Africa Conference, 30 May - 1 June 2018, Pretoria, South Africa

FEATURED VIDEO: Floating vegetable gardens

PUBLICATIONS

- Differential responses of taxonomic, structural, and functional diversity to local-scale environmental variation in Afromontane forests in South Africa (Mensah et al, 2018)
- Ecosystem services and biomass stock from bamboo stands in central and southern Benin, West Africa (Houdanon et al, 2018)
- Influence of social networks and social support on credit utilization in the Savings and Credit Cooperatives in Soroti District, Uganda (Alio et al, 2018)
- Situating the grain legume agenda in African agricultural research for development strategies (Akinbamijo et al, 2018)
- Documentation of selected outstanding innovations in Nigeria (Phillip, Jayeoba & Ndirpaya, 2018)

OPPORTUNITIES

Grants and Awards

- Big Data in Agriculture Blog Competition. Deadline: 30 March 2018
- (New) Anzisha Prize for Young Innovators 2018. For African innovators aged 15-22 who develop and implement innovative solutions to challenges facing their communities: Deadline: 31 March 2018
- Africa Evidence leadership Award 2018. Deadline: 1 April 2018
- USAID grant: Accelerating Local Potential. To support human and institutional capacity building collaborations between higher education institutions in the United States and those in low- and middle-income countries. Deadline: 6 April 2018
- IDRC call for proposals - Accelerating climate action: Social equity and empowerment of women and girls, Deadline: 23 April 2018
• **(New) USAID/Feed the Future Accelerating Women Entrepreneurs Prize.** Deadline: 25 April 2018

• BMCE Bank of Africa — African Entrepreneurship Award 2018. Submissions are invited from for-profit businesses managed by Africans who are at least 18 years old. **Deadline 30 April 2018**

• GCHERA World Agriculture Prize 2018. Two prizes will be awarded, with at least one awarded to a person from a country not listed as a country with a developed economy. **Deadline: 30 April 2018**

• Grand Challenges Explorations grant opportunities from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. **Deadline: 2 May 2018**
  - Affordable, accessible, and appealing: the next generation of nutrition
  - Tools and technologies for broad-scale disease surveillance of crop plants in low-income countries

• The UNESCO-Japan Prize on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). Honours outstanding projects by individuals, institutions and organizations related to ESD. **Deadline: 3 May 2018**

• TWAS prizes:
  - **(New) TWAS Prizes.** Nine prizes of USD 15,000 each to individual scientists who have been working and living in a developing country for at least 10 years. **Deadline: 3 April 2018**
  - **(New) TWAS—Fayzah M. Al-Kharaﬁ Prize.** Recognizes women scientists in the field of Agricultural Sciences or Biology. **Deadline: 25 April 2018**
  - **(New) TWAS Medal Lectures.** The recipients lecture on a main aspect of their work. **Deadline: Open**
  - **(New) Abdus Salam Medal.** Awarded to highly distinguished personalities who have served the cause of science in the Developing World. **Deadline: Open**
  - **(New) TWAS—C.N.R. Rao Award for Scientific Research.** Honours TWAS Fellows from Least Developed Countries, who have made significant contributions to global science. **Deadline: 31 May 2018**

• TWAS Research Grants Programme in Basic Sciences (Individuals). Awarded to promising high-level research projects in Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics carried out by individual scientists. **Deadline: 11 May 2018**

• TWAS Research Grants Programme in Basic Sciences (Groups). Awarded to promising high-level research projects in Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics carried out by research units. **Deadline: 11 May 2018**


• 2018 BCFN YES! Research Grant Competition invites young PhD and postdoc researchers to submit a research project to improve the sustainability of the food system. **Deadline: 14 June 2018**

• 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 - Travel Grant. Supports young scientists to present research results at various fora. **Applications for travel grants can be submitted anytime**

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**Scholarships and courses:**

• **(RUFORUM call) Proposal Development Write-shop for submissions to the African Union Research Grants Call for Proposals 2018.** The write-shop is organised on a cost-sharing basis. **Deadline: 30 March 2018**

• **(RUFORUM call) MCF@RUFORUM Scholarships 2018.** For BSc and MSc programmes tenable at Egerton University and Gulu University. **Deadline: 30 March 2018**

• **(RUFORUM call) PhD Training Opportunities under the RUFORUM Graduate Teaching Assistantship Program.** Applications will be accepted throughout the year

• Free e-learning courses from FAO

• Fellowships for ICRA courses: Deadline: 21 March 2018
  - Facing rural innovation challenges - Linking research to inclusive development for food security 24 Sep – 12 Oct 2018 in the Netherlands. Apply here and click here for scholarship information
  - Learning, action research and outreach – Making higher education boost food security, 29 Oct – 16 Nov 2018 in the Netherlands. Apply here and click here for scholarship information
  - Building agribusiness relations for sustainable profit – Key skills for inclusive business brokerage, 19 – 30 Nov 2018 in Uganda. Apply here and click here for scholarship information

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*The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) – www.ruforum.org*
• MoBreed (Mobility for Breeders in Africa) grant for MSc and academic/administrative staff exchange in orphan crops breeding. **Deadline: 30 March 2018**

• UNU-WIDER Visiting PhD Fellowship. Opportunity for doctoral students to utilize the facilities at UNU-WIDER for their PhD dissertation or thesis research. **Deadline: 31 March and 30 September each year**

• CAS-TWAS President’s PhD Fellowship Programme. Up to 200 students from all over the world will be sponsored to study in China for doctoral degrees for up to 4 years. **Deadline: 31 March 2018**

• TWAS-DFG Cooperation Visits Programme. Supports postdoctoral researchers from sub-Saharan Africa, including South Africa, to visit an institute in Germany. **Deadline: 31 March 2018**

• Intra-Africa Academic Mobility Project: Partnership for Training Scientist in Crop Improvement for Food Security in Africa (SCIFSA). Fellowships for PhD and MSc as well as short-term mobility for students and staff. **Deadline: 7 April 2018**

• **(New)** PhD scholarship at University of Bonn for research on “Perennial polyculture farming in Uganda: towards increased sustainability, resilience and livelihoods of smallholder farmers”. **Deadline: 8 April 2018**

• IPBO/VIB-UGent center for Plant Systems Biology course on “Modern Breeding techniques of maize”. 20 August – 7 September 2018. Scholarships available. **Deadline: 8 April 2018**

• **(New)** Joint Japan/World Bank Graduate Scholarship Program. Open to applicants from developing countries who are applying to a master degree program in a development-related topic. **Deadline: 12 April 2018**

• Call for applications to masters and doctoral programmes at the Pan African University. The African Union Commission will offer full scholarships to successful African candidates. **Deadline: 20 April 2018**

• **(New)** Australia Awards John Allwright Fellowship 2018. For partner-country scientists involved in ACIAR-supported research projects to undertake postgraduate training at Australian universities. **Deadline: 30 April 2018**

• MSc and PhD scholarships at the Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Agriculture and Agribusiness Management (CESAAM) hosted at Egerton University in Kenya. **Deadline: 30 April 2018**

• Mwalimu Nyerere African Union Scholarship Scheme 2018. For female applicants only for masters and PhD programmes in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). **Deadline: 30 April 2018**

• **(New)** International Training Course on Organic Agriculture: People, Knowledge and Food Systems. 10 July – 2 August 2018, Uganda. **Deadline: 3 May 2018**

• PhD position at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences on the project Improved disease control by community participation - the case of African swine fever in northern Uganda”. **Deadline: 4 May 2018**

• FAO e-learning courses on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators

• Free online courses on sustainability from the ESRC STEPS Centre at the University of Sussex

• Elsevier Publishing Campus: free online training platform for researchers to improve their knowledge and skills in publishing academic research

• 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**

### Calls for Papers

• **(RUFORUM call)** Call for research application summaries/extended abstracts and posters for the RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2018. **Deadline: 31 July 2018**

• **(RUFORUM call)** Call for manuscripts: African Journal for Rural Development. Regular articles, short communications and reviews accepted. **Deadline: Open**

• Call for papers and posters for the 7th All African Conference on Animal Agriculture (7th AACAA). 15-19 October 2018, Accra. **Deadline: 30 April 2018**

• Call for abstracts for the International APIMONDIA Symposium 2018 on the ‘Role of Bees in Food Production’, 30 November - 4 December 2018, Addis Ababa. **Deadline: 30 April 2018**
Call for abstracts for the 1st Africa Conference on Evidence to Action (E2A), 25 - 27 July 2018, Nairobi. **Deadline: 30 April 2018**


Call for abstracts for the 8th Africa Nutritional Epidemiology Conference (ANEC VIII), 1–5 October 2018, Addis Ababa. **Deadline: 30 June 2018**

**New** The International Journal of Agricultural Resources, Governance and Ecology invites papers on climate change and agriculture especially from developing countries (Africa in particular)

**WEBINARS & E-DISCUSSIONS**

**New** FAO e-conference on "The Role of Small Farms Within a Larger Context of Food Security", 19 March – 9 April 2018

Dgroups webinar: Simple Solutions for Building Communities in Your Organization, 22 March 2018

**New** GFAR/GODAN/CTA webinar: "Crossing the Donga – Accelerating Market Adoption and Use of Data by Smallholders", 26 March 2018

**JOBS**

**New** ICT4Ag Project Officer at the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA), Wageningen, The Netherlands. **Deadline: 8 April 2018**

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