

Vol.4, No.10

A weekly digest of News, Events and Opportunities

NEWS

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

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
- <u>Seedbeds of Transformation: the Role of Science with Society and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Africa</u> <u>conference</u>. 9 - 11 May, Port Elizabeth, South Africa
- <u>4th IAALD (International Association of Agricultural Information Specialists) Africa Conference</u>, 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
- <u>USAID grant: Accelerating Local Potential</u>. 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

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- (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 0
- 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 0 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 0 Biology. Deadline: 25 April 2018
 - (New) TWAS Medal Lectures. The recipients lecture on a main aspect of their work. Deadline: Open 0
 - (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 0 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
- African Union Research Grants II Open Call for Proposals 2018 Edition. The call supports research on: Food, Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA). Deadline 22 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

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 \cap 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 0 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 0 2018 in Uganda. Apply here and click here for scholarship information

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- MoBreed (Mobility for Breeders in Africa) grant for MSc and academic/administrative staff exchange in orphan crops breeding. Deadline: 30 March 2018
- <u>UNU-WIDER Visiting PhD Fellowship.</u> 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**
- <u>CAS-TWAS President's PhD Fellowship Programme</u>. 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**
- <u>TWAS-DFG Cooperation Visits Programme</u>. 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: 5 April 2018**
- <u>Call for scholarships: Intra-Africa Academic mobility Project Regional Academic Exchange for Enhanced Skills in Fragile</u> <u>Ecosystems Management in Africa (REFORM).</u> Fellowships for PhDs 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
- <u>IPBO/VIB-UGent center for Plant Systems Biology course on "Modern Breeding techniques of maize"</u>, 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
- <u>Call for applications to masters and doctoral programmes at the Pan African University</u>. The African Union Commission will offer full scholarships to successful African candidates. **Deadline: 20 April 2018**
- (New) <u>Australia Awards John Allwright Fellowship 2018</u>. For partner-country scientists involved in ACIAR-supported research projects to undertake postgraduate training at Australian universities. **Deadline: 30 April 2018**
- <u>MSc and PhD scholarships at the Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Agriculture and Agribusiness Management</u> (<u>CESAAM</u>) hosted at Egerton University in Kenya. **Deadline: 30 April 2018**
- <u>Mwalimu Nyerere African Union Scholarship Scheme 2018</u>. 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
- <u>Elsevier Publishing Campus</u>: free online training platform for researchers to improve their knowledge and skills in publishing academic research
- <u>Nestlé Foundation grants</u> 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*) <u>Call for research application summaries/extended abstracts and posters for the RUFORUM Biennial</u> <u>Conference 2018.</u> **Deadline: 31 July 2018**
- (*RUFORUM call*) <u>Call for manuscripts: African Journal for Rural Development</u>. Regular articles, short communications and reviews accepted. **Deadline: Open**
- <u>Call for papers and posters for the 7th All African Conference on Animal Agriculture (7th AACAA)</u>, 15-19 October 2018, Accra. **Deadline: 30 April 2018**
- <u>Call for abstracts for the International APIMONDIA Symposium 2018 on the 'Role of Bees in Food Production'</u>, 30
 November 4 December 2018, Addis Ababa. **Deadline: 30 April 2018**

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- <u>Call for abstracts for the 1st Africa Conference on Evidence to Action (E2A)</u>, 25 27 July 2018, Nairobi. Deadline: 30 April 2018
- <u>Call for Abstracts for the 2nd International Conference on Food Safety and Security</u>, 15 17 October 2018, Pretoria.
 Deadline: 2 May 2018
- <u>Call for abstracts for the 8th Africa Nutritional Epidemiology Conference (ANEC VIII)</u>, 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) <u>GFAR/GODAN/CTA webinar: "Crossing the Donga Accelerating Market Adoption and Use of Data by</u> <u>Smallholders"</u>, 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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