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A weekly digest of News, Events and Opportunities

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NEWS AND EVENTS

- Former RUFORUM Principal Investigator now Full Professor at Makerere University
- Africa Centre of Excellence in Phytochemicals, Textile and Renewable Energy at Moi University takes off
- Makerere University and partners receive African Union grant to facilitate African Swine Fever research
- Improving the quality of university education in Africa
- African universities are ignoring a rich, invaluable resource: their alumni
- The role of women in education systems in Africa
- **Events:**
 - 3rd Annual Agriculture, Nutrition, and Health Academy Week, 25-29 June 2018, Accra
 - University Advancement Workshop: '21st century Vice Chancellor/ president of Africa HEI's what is required of them?' Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, 23 - 25 May 2018

PUBLICATIONS

- Determinants of credit utilization among SACCO members in Soroti District, Uganda (Alio et al, 2017)
- Devolution policy and its implication on watershed restoration in eastern Uganda (Akello et al., 2017)
- Innovation opportunities in the rice value chain in Nigeria (*Phillip et al*, 2018)
- Analysis of the dynamics and obstacles to the adoption of technological innovations: the case of rice farming in Togo (Todje et al, 2018)
- Evaluating climate models with an African lens (James et al, 2018)
- The future of food and agriculture: trends and challenges (FAO, 2017)
- Gender and ICTs: Mainstreaming gender in the use of ICTs for agriculture and rural development (Treinen & Elstraeten, 2018)

FEATURED VIDEO: An empowered woman means an empowered community

OPPORTUNITIES

Grants and Awards

- WARC Travel Grant for African scholars and researchers 2018. For West African nationals only. Deadline: 15 March 2018
- (New) AgriPitch Entrepreneurship Competition. Proposals can be for start-ups or established and growing companies. Deadline: 15 March 2018
- 2019 TWAS Prizes. Awards from The World Academy of Sciences to individual scientists from developing countries. Nomination deadline: 15 March 2018
- Big Data in Agriculture Blog Competition. Deadline: 30 March 2018
- Africa Evidence leadership Award 2018. Deadline: 1 April 2018
- (New) 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
- (New) IDRC call for proposals Accelerating climate action: Social equity and empowerment of women and girls. Deadline: 23 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

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- 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
- (New) 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 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
- (New) 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
- (New) 10 Master's and 5 PhD places for regional candidates at the African Centre for Research, Agricultural advancement, Teaching Excellence and Sustainability in Food and Nutritional Security (CREATES), Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology. Starting April 2018. Deadline: 18 March 2018
- IMU/CDC Graduate Research Assistantships in Developing Countries (GRAID). Funding for students to pursue a master's or PhD degree in mathematics. Deadline: 15 March 2018
- Excellence Master Fellowships from University of Geneva. Open to outstanding students who wish to pursue a Master of Science degree in one of the disciplines covered by the Faculty. Deadline: 15 March 2018
- The Structural Transformation of African Agriculture and Rural Spaces (STAARS) fellowship program. For early-career African researchers seeking to become STAARS fellows in 2018. Deadline: 15 March 2018
- PEER Women in Science Mentorship. The programme will support a one-year mentorship, including professional training for both mentors and mentees. Deadline: 16 March 2018
- 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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- (New) 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
- 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: 5 April 2018
- Call for scholarships: Intra-Africa Academic mobility Project Regional Academic Exchange for Enhanced Skills in Fragile Ecosystems Management in Africa (REFORM). Fellowships for PhDs and MSc as well as short term mobility for students and staff. Deadline: 7 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) Calls 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
- 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) 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 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
- 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
- (New) Call for abstracts for the 2nd International Conference on Food Safety and Security, 15 17 October 2018, Pretoria. Deadline: 2 May 2018
- Call for abstracts for the 8th Africa Nutritional Epidemiology Conference (ANEC VIII), 1-5 October 2018, Addis Ababa. Deadline: 30 June 2018

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WEBINARS

- (New) Future Climate for Africa (FCFA): How can climate models be improved over Africa? Investigating global models with local knowledge, 15 March 2018
- (New) Dgroups: simple solutions for building communities in your organization, 22 March 2018

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