

RUFORUM Celebrating 10 years as a Network and 22 years supporting Agricultural Higher Education

MAY, 2014

ISSN: 2073-9699

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 05

The Monthly Brief of the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM)

Celebrating RUFORUM@10

BRIEFING NOTE ON THE RUFORUM FOURTH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

Once every two years, RUFORUM organizes an Africa-wide week-long conference with the aim of fostering networking among its member universities and to link universities to other actors in the Agricultural and Tertiary Agricultural Education sectors. The Fourth RUFORUM Biennial Conference will take place from 19 – 25 July 2014 at the VIP Hotel in Maputo, Mozambique under the theme ***African Higher Education Week: Celebrating the contribution of African Universities and Partners to agricultural development in Africa.***

The Fourth Biennial is special in many ways:

- It coincides with the 10 Year anniversary of RUFORUM, and will thus provide an opportunity to reflect on the progress made over the years, and visioning on the growth path for the next decade;
- The Biennial will be held in Maputo, where 10 years ago African Heads of States and Governments signed the CAADP declaration. The Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) is the blue print agreed upon by African Heads of States and Governments for achieving 6% economic growth through agricultural transformation.
- It falls within the African Year of Agriculture and Food Security which was declared by the African Union, as part of celebrating CAADP at 10. This Biennial provides an opportunity to reflect on the contributions of African Universities and Partners to agricultural development and food security in the continent.

This year's conference will particularly focus on the future of agriculture and Agricultural Tertiary Education in Africa and will include the launching of RUFORUM Graduate Teaching Assistantship Programme, an initiative by Vice Chancellors to increase the pool of PhD trained scientists in Africa. The conference will bring together close to 500 delegates from across Africa and beyond, including development partners and senior African Policy makers.

There will be pre-conference events to increase networking and learning among Deans, Faculty and students in RUFORUM programmes. These will be held on 19th and 20th July 2014. In addition, two policy organs of RUFORUM will meet during this period, the RUFORUM Deans Committee and the International Advisory Panel. The actual conference will be held over a 5 day-period as outlined on the next page

(Continued on page 3)

Contact Us:

E-mail: secretariat@ruforum.org;

Visit our Website: www.ruforum.org

Follow us on Social Media



RUFORUM Celebrating 10 years as a Network and 22 years supporting Agricultural Higher Education

DAY	SCHEDULE OF EVENTS					
	0800-1000	1000-1030	1030-1300	1300-1400	1400-1700	1800-2000
SATURDAY 19 July 2014	CTA-WUR-RUFORUM Food & Nutrition Security Deans Workshop EDULINK II Planning Meeting	BREAK	CTA-WUR-RUFORUM Food & Nutrition Security Deans Workshop EDULINK II Planning Meeting	LUNCH	CTA-WUR-RUFORUM Food & Nutrition Security Deans Workshop EDULINK II Planning Meeting	OPEN SPACE
	Social Media Reporters Training		Social Media Reporters Training		Social Media Reporters Training	
SUNDAY 20 July 2014	CTA-WUR-RUFORUM Food & Nutrition Security Deans Workshop EDULINK II Planning Meeting	BREAK	CTA-WUR-RUFORUM Food & Nutrition Security Deans Workshop EDULINK II Planning Meeting	LUNCH	RUFORUM Deans Committee Meeting RUFORUM IAP Meeting EDULINK II Planning Meeting	OPEN SPACE
	Social Media Reporters Training		Social Media Reporters Training		Social Media Reporters Training	
	Set-up for RUFORUM@10		Set-up for RUFORUM@10		Set-up for RUFORUM@10	
MONDAY 21 July 2014	Opening Ceremony (RUFORUM@10)	BREAK	Genesis & Chronicles of RUFORUM	LUNCH	PLENARY: Horizon Searching: RUFORUM in the Next 10 Years RUFORUM@10: Viewing of Posters & Exhibitions	RECEPTION for Delegates Host: Eduardo Mondlane University
	Set-up for Posters & General Exhibitions		Set-up for Posters & General Exhibitions		Set-up for Posters & General Exhibitions	
TUESDAY 22 July 2014	PLENARY: Harnessing high end science for agricultural development in Africa	BREAK	VICE CHANCELLORS's Forum: Escalating Doctoral Training in Agric. & Life Sciences	LUNCH	VICE CHANCELLORS's Forum: Escalating Doctoral Training in Agric. & Life Sciences RUFORUM Board Meeting @ UEM	UEM Meeting with Vice Chancellors and IAP Host: Eduardo Mondlane University
		BREAK	Enhancing publication and oral presentation skills of graduate students	LUNCH	Enhancing publication and oral presentation skills of graduate students	
			Other Side Events		Other Side Events	
WEDNESDAY 23 July 2014	PLENARY: Integration of HAE into CAADP & National Development Plans	BREAK	Foresight: Looking into the Future of Agriculture & Higher Education in Africa	LUNCH	RUFORUM Annual General Meeting (AGM)	RUFORUM Board Meeting with Key Partners
			Side Events		Graduate Students & Alumni Meeting	
THURSDAY 24 July 2014	PLENARY: Transforming the Agricultural Sector	BREAK	Scientific Conference: Seven Parallel Sessions Regional collaboration and Agricultural Science Partnership – CCARDESA / ASARECA Deans Meeting	LUNCH	Scientific Conference: Seven Parallel Sessions	OPEN SPACE
FRIDAY 25 July 2014	PLENARY: Moving forward the HAE Agenda	BREAK	Scientific Conference: four Parallel Sessions	LUNCH	PLENARY: Feedback from the conference Prize Awards and Closing Session	RECEPTION- Host: RUFORUM Sec

Contact Us:

E-mail: secretariat@ruforum.org;

Visit our Website: www.ruforum.org

Follow us on Social Media



RUFORUM Celebrating 10 years as a Network and 22 years supporting Agricultural Higher Education

Day One: Monday 21 July: Celebrating 10 years of RUFORUM

The Programme for this day includes an address by the Chair of African Union Commission, HE Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, official opening by the Rt Hon Prime Minister of the Republic of Mozambique, Alberto Vaquina, and an address by Mrs Graca Machel, a member of the Panel of Elders and by Dr. Akinwunmi Adesina, Nigerian Federal Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development. This will be followed by two plenary sessions, one highlighting the Genesis and Chronicles of RUFORUM, and the second, is horizon searching for RUFORUM: Visioning for the next Decade. There will be an exhibition, to profile some of the RUFORUM activities and outcomes.

Day Two: Tuesday 22 July: Harnessing Science and Technology Capacity in Africa

The day will open with a plenary address by the ICRISAT Board Chair, Prof Chandra Madamotto on Harnessing High-end science for agricultural development in Africa. This will be followed by four breakout sessions looking at escalating Doctoral Training in Africa, Harnessing New Information Technologies, Strengthening Extension Education and Training in Africa, and on Mobilizing Partnership for Research and Higher Education in Africa. All four sessions will address how best to build and strengthen science and innovation capacity in Africa.

Day Three: Wednesday 23 July: Policy dialogue on the future of agriculture and higher education in Africa

The morning plenary sessions on this day will look at the future of African agriculture and higher education, to distil needed actions to strengthen engagement of African universities in agricultural transformation. The newly launched Science Agenda for African Agriculture will set the stage for three Panel sessions on how to better integrate universities into CAADP and strengthen their ability to produce the graduates, research and outreach necessary to transform rural areas. One panel will present the Perspectives from Agricultural Policy Makers, the second Perspectives from Higher Education and Science and Technology Policy Makers, and the third, Perspectives from University leaders. All three Panels will discuss evolving trends, likely scenarios, and how best Universities should position themselves to respond. What lessons are out there for African higher education and policy to pick from? What transformation changes are needed from institutional perspectives? What policies and investments are needed to support the required transformation and ensure the continent meets its development targets, including Agenda 2063, CAADP and the Science Agenda for African Agriculture?

The afternoon will have two events, the Annual General Meeting of the RUFORUM Network to receive report of the progress made over the last year (2013/14) and set targets for 2014/15. This will take place at the Administration Building of the Eduardo Mondlane University. A separate meeting for graduate students and RUFORUM alumni will also be held at Eduardo Mondlane University Campus to discuss what they want to see out of RUFORUM and from African universities.

(Continued on page 4)

Contact Us:

E-mail: secretariat@ruforum.org;

Visit our Website: www.ruforum.org

Follow us on Social Media





RUFORUM Celebrating 10 years as a Network and 22 years supporting Agricultural Higher Education

Day Four: Thursday 24 July: Transforming the agricultural and higher education sectors in Africa

The focus of this day is to provide opportunity for young and senior scientists to share their experience in research for development activities for improved smallholder livelihoods. It will also provide a platform for advancement of knowledge and sharing of technologies and lessons learnt for meeting the goals of Agenda 2063. There will be two plenary sessions, one on transformation of the Rwanda Agricultural sector that has enabled Rwanda to achieve Millennium Development Goal 1 of eradicating extreme poverty and hunger. The second will be a case study sharing experiences on the transformation of Kenyatta University in Kenya.

Day Five: Friday 25 July: Moving Forward the African Higher Agricultural Education agenda

This is the last day of the conference and will focus on drawing lessons learnt over the seven days and developing consensus on the needed actions by different actors to reposition Higher Education in Agriculture in Africa to respond to current and future agricultural needs and to ensure the continent has the needed capacity to meet the goals of the African Agenda 2063. The closing session will include prize awards for outstanding achievers, and an address by the African Union Commissioner for Human Resource, Science and Technology.

RUFORUM's DEVELOPMENTAL ROOTS was the second in a series of articles we are releasing as part of our 10 year anniversary. [Click here](#) to read or download this issue

Updates on the Upcoming Biennial Conference, 2014

- ◆ Online Registration has commenced with over 250 participants registered online. All invited participants are encouraged to register online.
- ◆ Exhibitors need to register twice - for their booth and also as individuals.
- ◆ The Online Registration Link is: <http://www.cvent.com/d/p4q1cb/4W>.
- ◆ Participants with Mozambique Embassies in their countries should apply for visas prior to travel. A Mozambique Visa is estimated at US\$98 per person; others may obtain visa on arrival in Maputo
- ◆ All participants should ensure that they have confirmed accommodation booking by **30th June, 2014**.

For details and updates on the conference, Please [click here](#) to visit the official Biennial Conference Website.

Contact Us:

E-mail: secretariat@ruforum.org;

Visit our Website: www.ruforum.org

Follow us on Social Media

