IAAS Eastern and Southern Africa Exchange week 2015

“Youth involvement in Agricultural sustainability and Food security”

PREPARATION DOCUMENT

Kenya, Uganda and Swaziland
18th–23rd May 2015

www.iaasworld.org
WELCOME

On behalf of the organizing committee for IAAS Eastern and Southern Africa Exchange program, I would wish to welcome all stakeholders to this noble event, the first of its kind in East Africa and Africa at large. The event that will bring together students in agricultural and related professions from Kenya, Uganda and Swaziland to discuss how the youth can get involved in agricultural sustainability and food security.

The exchange week will be characterised by a three day visit to Uganda and three days in Kenya. Participants will be able to meet professional speakers, young agri-entrepreneurs and visit agricultural research institutions.

The event will also provide an opportunity for the young professionals in agriculture to network with the professionals as a way of creating an employment transition in agricultural sector.

Thanks to Smiling Through Investment, a group of young entrepreneurs from the University of Swaziland, who will present a session on young investment and do an encouragement on self-employment.

Promotion of IAAS in Africa will be another focus of the program as a continuation of the 1st IAAS E.A Conference held in Kenya in Nov last year and a preparation for the 2nd IAAS E.A Conference to be held in Nov this year in Uganda.

We do believe the event will be a bench-mark to other IAASers globally.

Feel welcomed to Kenya and Uganda.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. A. K. Ouma
National Director
IAAS Kenya
Secretary to the organizing committee.

IAAS E&S. AFRICA EXCHANGE WEEK
About IAAS E&S. Africa Exchange Program

With the current statistics of food insecurity in Africa, university students in agricultural and related professions from Kenya, Uganda and Swaziland have organized a one week brainstorming program that is aimed at enhancing agricultural production and sustainability through youth involvement.

The program named “IAAS EAST AND SOUTH AFRICA EXCHANGE WEEK” is prompted by the need to see Africa a food secure continent by 2030 and this is believed to be achieved when the youth are actively involved in implementing agricultural policies in Africa.

The students in question are drawn from universities from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Swaziland and South Africa.

The participants will have the opportunity to interact with agricultural professionals from across the globe to promote agricultural transition from generation to generation.

The event is organized in such a way that participants will take 3 days in Kenya and 3 days in Uganda. During the period, participants will be addressed by such professionals, they will visit agricultural institutions and youthful agri-entrepreneurs from both countries.

IAAS refers to International Association of Students in Agricultural and related Sciences with its international headquarters in Belgium and a regional chapter in Africa. Kenya and Rwanda are the current member states in E. Africa.

Objectives of the program

1. To identify the role of the youth in agricultural production in Africa
2. To promote agricultural sustainability through young professionals and professionals integration
3. To address youth unemployment by encouraging self-employment through agriculture
4. To promote IAAS in Africa for a wider coverage of the global platform of youth empowering association.
5. To strengthen the relationship between agricultural students from East and South Africa.

About the organizers

IAAS Kenya

International Association of students in the agricultural and related sciences, Kenya chapter is a national association of students from Kenyan universities. Currently a candidate member for IAAS World, it has 10 member universities from Kenya. These are:
Egerton university (National headquarters), Maseno University, University of Nairobi (college of Agriculture and veterinary Sciences), Rongo University, Kisii University, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Kenyatta University (school of agriculture), Moi University (School of Agriculture), University of Eldoret and Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology.

IAAS Kenya hosted the first ever IAAS East Africa Conference in November 2014. This was a promotional event organized by IAAS World to have as many African states join IAAS. Thanks to Self Help Africa, Syngenta Foundation for Agricultural Sustainability and Egerton University for sponsoring the conference.

IAAS Kenya has been promoting the youth in agriculture through activities such as agriculture weeks in the local chapters, agricultural debates, Mr and Miss Agriculture competitions, agricultural trade fairs, games between agricultural institutions, agricultural open forums and seminars among other activities.

IAAS Kenya is pleased to be one of the organizers for this great Exchange week and do assure to play a vital role as a host for the three days and to see the event a success.

Welcome to Kenya, welcome to IAAS Kenya.

Smiling Through Investment; University of Swaziland

**Smiling Through Investments** is an agribusiness firm that seeks to empower the agricultural sector by providing expertise and a marketing platform for them to outclass. We are a 100% youth owned entity that seeks to rise above the odds of business. These entity was established in September 2013 due to the love of agricultural businesses. It constitutes seven third year students doing Bsc.in Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness Management who are equal shareholders. There is Gcina Dlamini (CEO), Knowledge Zvenyika (Production Manager), Nomphumelelo Shongwe (Administrator), Nothando Mamba (Marketing Manager), Sibandze Thabani (Financial Manager), Sgudla Busisiwe (Public Relations Manager) and Mbongeleni Langwenya (Sales Manager). We are a business inspired by the UNISWA entrepreneurial course.

Our mission is **to become Swaziland’s main centre of excellence in providing exceptional and up-to-date agribusiness services and quality agricultural products.** The objectives of the business are to provide quality, affordable agribusiness services, to provide fresh, quality and well packaged agricultural products, to enable agribusiness promotion and use of locally grown products, to develop and sustain the project as a recognized brand into the future, and to strive in growth and alliances as a youth established business.

In October 2013, we were engaged in green mealie production where we managed 1ha. It was a great success and a good opportunity for experiencing agribusiness management and its surveillances. In February 2014 through lesion with seed quality control department at Malkerns research centre we ventured into bean seed production under their HaSSP legume seed initiative. Our success in this project lead us to be chosen to host the seed bean field day
2014 which was graced by the presence of his honourable Minister of Agriculture, Moses Vilakati. Also the CEO of Smiling Through Investments has since been elected the Chairperson of HaSSP seed growers Cooperative for the period of three years, June 2014 to May 2017.

Currently, we are growing 3ha of green mealies for the vendors to be sold out in January 2015. Then in March 2015 during the second semester short break beginning from 9 to 15 March we will be hosting the Agribusiness fair and Agribusiness school fair festival. This two projects are carried out in an impartial fulfilment of an entrepreneurship project (AEM 320) course. We are looking forward to grow professionally as a business, registered organisation paying necessary taxes as well as employing permanent staff, owning a centre where we will do our business so that our clients will easily access our help, teaching and mentoring the youth. Our vision is to develop and sustain our enterprise for self-sustainability and growth in agribusiness to effectively impact Swaziland’s economy towards attainment of vision 2022.

Busitema University: Uganda.

Busitema University is the fifth public Universities in Uganda, established by Statutory Instrument No. 22, 2007 enacted by Parliament on 10th May 2007. The University holds a pivotal and challenging responsibility as the only public University in the Eastern region to play a major role in its development.

Busitema University offers a variety of unique choices to ensure that a student follows a rewarding academic path according to their interests and capabilities. In addition to academics, students have opportunities to develop new relationships, many of which will last a lifetime.

Leadership capacity building is prioritized so as to prepare students to play leadership roles in society. Recreational activities are also promoted. Research efforts are being directed towards relevant knowledge production, efficient knowledge dissemination and innovation for sustainable development.

In order to ensure effective and efficient transfer of knowledge, partnerships and networks are being formed with local communities, private sector, local and central governments, and non-governmental organizations. The University has a strong commitment to engage with the national agenda, and to build sustainable communities for future generations.

We are making conscious efforts to internationalize the University by establishing linkages between us and Universities all over the world. These linkages will enable us exchange staff and students, undertake collaborative research, develop joint curricula and make the University develop world class standards. The University has also established links with professional networks. Our staff and students have special opportunities to obtain international experience through attending international conferences as well as paying visits to other universities outside Uganda. We warmly welcome partnerships with other Universities in the creation of invaluable opportunities for information sharing, collaboration and intellectual interaction.
The University has set aside land for the development of a Science and Industrial Park. The Uganda Investment Authority has listed the University Park among the 22 parks planned for the country. The park will focus on technology development and transfer; innovation and product development; and promotion and commercialization of knowledge. The park will host various companies relevant to the University mission and will be a location where government, universities and private sector collaborate.

**Vision**

A centre of academic and professional excellence in science, technology and innovation

**Mission**

To provide high standard training, engage in quality research and outreach for socio-economic transformation and sustainable development.

**Strategic Objectives**

- To be the standard of excellence and innovation for societal transformation
- To be leader in integrating scholarship and practice
- To serve societal needs and foster social and economic development
- To be global in perspective, organization and activity
- To engage staff and students in creative and rewarding learning so as to enhance economic and societal development of Uganda and beyond
- To assist local communities to build their capacity for socio-economic enhancement.

**Core values**

The core values relevant to Busitema University’s achieving its mission are equity, integrity, respect for diversity, excellence, relevance, professionalism, internationalism, innovativeness and nationalism. University campuses

The campuses of Busitema University include the following:

**Target audience;**

The program targets the following group of people:

1. Students in agricultural related fields
2. The unemployed youth
3. Young profession with passion in agriculture

**Places to visit**

**Kenya**

- Egertom University,
- University of Nairobi (CAVs)
The National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO) is the apex body for guidance and coordination of all agricultural research activities in the national agricultural research system in Uganda. NARO is a Public Institution established by an act of Parliament, which was enacted on 21st November 2005. NARO is a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal. NARO comprises of the council as its governing body, committees of the council as its specialised organs, a secretariat for its day-to-day operations with the semi-autonomous public agricultural research institutes under its policy guidance.

The Vision, the Mission and the Goal that guide the National Agricultural Research Organisation are derived from the Plan for Modernisation of Agriculture (PMA)

NARO Vision
“The generation, adoption and dissemination of appropriate and demand-driven technologies, knowledge and information through an effective, efficient, sustainable, decentralised and well co-ordinated agricultural research system”.

**NARO Mission**

“The generation, adoption and dissemination of appropriate and demand-driven technologies, knowledge and information through an effective, efficient, sustainable, decentralised and well co-ordinated agricultural research system”.

**NARO Goal**

“To enhance the contribution of agricultural research to sustainable agricultural productivity, economic growth, food security and poverty eradication through generation and dissemination of appropriate technologies, knowledge and information”.

**NARO Objective**

The Objective of NARO is for the coordination and oversight of all aspects of agricultural research in Uganda.

**Schedule of Events; Kenya and Uganda:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day/Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Host</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 17th May 2014</td>
<td>Arrival of Visitors (Swaziland team)</td>
<td>Egerton University, Kenya</td>
<td>IAAS Kenya</td>
<td>Over-Night stay</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Monday 18th May 2015  | 1. Arrival in Uganda (Kenya & Swaziland team)  
<pre><code>                   | 2. Meeting with students from Uganda                               | Busitema University   | Busitema University | 10am |
</code></pre>
<p>|                  |                                                                      |                        |                 | 2pm          |
| Tuesday 19th May 2015 | Visit to Research institutes                                        | NARO                   | Busitema University | 10am        |
| Wednesday 20th May 2015 | Road trip to Kenya (Uganda, Kenya and Swaziland)                  |                        |                 |              |
| Thursday 21st May 2015 | Meeting Maseno                                                     | Maseno University      | IAAS Kenya     | 10am         |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 22nd May 2015</td>
<td>Visiting Young Farmers in Eldoret University</td>
<td>IAAS Kenya</td>
<td>10am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 23rd May 2015</td>
<td>Visiting Amiran Kenya Amiran Headquarters</td>
<td>Amiran Kenya</td>
<td>2pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 24th May 2015</td>
<td>Journey Back to various countries.</td>
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**Travel:**
Participants can choose to travel direct to Uganda (those away from Uganda) then local transportation in Uganda will be provided. Transportation from Uganda to Kenya will be by road and shall be provided for the whole team.

**Registration:**
Interested participants and any interested stakeholder to contact the organizers through the contacts given below.

**Contacts:**

Email:

iaas.kenya@gmail.com

Mobile Phone/WhatsApp contact

Kenya: Kennedy Ouma +254 700 926 492

Uganda: John Sekajugo +256 782 223 004