Second IAAS East Africa Conference 2015

“Enhancing Agricultural Research and Extension Services to achieve Food Security and Sustainable Natural Resource Management”

PREPARATION DOCUMENT

Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda and Burundi

29th-31st October 2015
WELCOME

On behalf of the second IAAS East African conference organizing committee, I invite and welcome you to contribute towards this timely and very important event that brings all the stakeholders of agriculture and related sciences together and creates a platform for them to share innovative ideas for enhancing agricultural research and extension services to achieve food security and sustainable natural resource management.

The conference will be held at Busitema University, Jinja study centre, Uganda and will last for 3 days. In the conference, students from all East African community member states will meet and share research experience in Agricultural and related sciences. Students with selected innovative research findings will present their papers to other participants as a way of sharing knowledge and transferring skills to the rest of the participants.

The conference will also provide an opportunity for the young professionals in agriculture and related sciences to network with the professionals and entrepreneurs from corporate agencies, government and private sector as a way of bridging the gap between scientists, policy makers and the practicing community while also creating employment linkages.

Promotion of IAAS in East Africa and Ugandan secondary and higher institutions of learning will be another focus of the conference as a continuation of the 1st IAAS E.A Conference that was held in Kenya in Nov last year.

We are sure that the conference will serve as a starting point to enhance agricultural research and extension services to achieve food security and sustainable natural resource management which are part of the current global concerns.

We welcome you once again to support and attend the conference.

Yours sincerely,

John Sekajugo
Chairperson organizing committee

SECOND IAAS EAST AFRICA CONFERENCE
GENERAL INFORMATION

The International Association of Students in Agricultural and Related Sciences (IAAS) is an organization that binds together students all around the world that share a similar dream and ideals for Agricultural and the Related Sciences.

The aims and objectives of IAAS have been defined by the founding of the General Assembly back in 1957.

The objectives upon which IAAS operates are:

• Encouraging the interchange of ideas in all fields of education and practices in Agricultural and Related Sciences

• Promoting the co-operation and understanding between students of Agricultural and Related Sciences from all over the world.

• Preparing students to fulfil the challenges of their future work with a practical and global view.

• Encouraging the formation and development of local organizations of Students in Agricultural and Related Sciences.

• Organizing international meetings, seminars and training periods abroad for students in Agricultural and Related Sciences.

• Promoting sustainable Agriculture, economics and food production in the whole world.

• Promoting a higher education system of high quality, accessible for everyone.

• So far we have been working to fulfil these aims and objectives IAAS is standing for throughout the world by organizing different types of activities.

MISSION STATEMENT

To promote the Exchange of Experience, Knowledge and Ideas, and to improve the mutual understanding between Students in the fields of Agricultural and Related sciences all over the world
About IAAS East Africa Conference

**Aim of the event:**
The aim of the IAAS East Africa Conference is to unite East-African agricultural and related sciences students by strengthening the IAAS network in the East African region. By combining the knowledge of all these students and by offering them a place to exchange experiences IAAS can serve as a platform that in the end can stand up against the major food security problems our world is facing.

**How to strengthen the IAAS network in East Africa?**
- Promoting IAAS among East African Students (focus: Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Uganda, Burundi)
- Inform students about the opportunities IAAS can offer
  - On local level
  - On international level
- Strengthen the relationship between local African committees and the international board.
- Improve the skills of the local IAAS members with trainings
- Starting new IAAS Projects; Village Concept Projects etc.

**Detailed description:**

Like described in the aim, the idea of the event is to bring together agricultural and related sciences students from all over East Africa to let them get in touch with IAAS, provide them inspiring lectures and improve their soft skills

After the event the students who attended should feel really motivated to join IAAS, to be an active member in their local committee, to take initiative to organize local / national events and to participate in IAAS projects.

To improve the soft skills of the attending students there will be presentations of research work by students and speeches from guests invited from Universities, business community, government and private sector.
About the organizers

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.

It is the only university in Uganda that attended the first East Africa IAAS conference in Kenya last year and since then, the University is working tirelessly through the faculty of natural resources and environmental sciences to register Uganda and make her the third IAAS E.Africa member country following Kenya and Rwanda which are already members.

Busitema University is 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.

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, and respect for diversity, excellence, relevance, professionalism, internationalism, innovativeness and nationalism.

Busitema University is proud to host and lead the organization of this great conference and assures total commitment to make the conference a success.

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 Tanzania (Sokoine University)

Sokoine University of Agriculture is a public university in 1984 in Morogoro, Tanzania specializing in agriculture.

The university has 3 faculties (Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine) and 2 institutes namely the Institute of Continuing Education and the Development Studies Institute.

The university offers undergraduate training leading to the award of degrees in Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Science, Home Economics and Nutrition, Food Science and Technology, Agronomy, Agricultural Engineering, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine. The university also offers training leading to awards of master of sciences and PhD in the respective fields of Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine.

The university has a Directorate of Research and Post Graduate Studies. It was established in 1988 and its responsibilities include coordination of research activities, managing and facilitating the dissemination of research findings and results, maintaining an inventory of research facilities, soliciting and administering research funds.
University's research motto is to encourage multi-disciplinary research for sustainable development and poverty alleviation.

Research programmes that represent the research profile of the university include:

• Soil and water management for crop and livestock production,
• technology transfer, adoption and agricultural diversification,
• small and large ruminant improvement for meat and milk production,
• food crops improvement including promotion of underutilised indigenous crops,
• nutrition and family resources management,
• farming systems research,
• improvement and management of natural resources and plantation forests including economics, policy, harvesting and utilisation,
• Livestock diseases and management of disease of public and economic importance in Tanzania.

According to the university research motto, adaptive research and on-farm testing is the key element in the transfer of knowledge, and in solving problems afflicting the rural areas of Tanzania.

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