



## The Fifth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2016

### Launch of developed MSc programmes, training of managers and students, ADECEA-EDULINK II project

#### Concept Note

#### Background

Countries emerging from conflicts in Sub-Saharan Africa are generally characterized by low agricultural productivity and limited value addition and hence rampant poverty and food and nutrition insecurity. Jump-starting their economic recovery can be one of the greatest bolsters of communities' livelihood security, and can provide the engine for quick recovery. Under stable political environment well designed and implemented demand-driven training programmes is pre-requisite to the achievement of the target as it avails the labour market needed skills.

Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo (DR Congo) and Madagascar are three African countries emerging from conflicts which are in dire need of revitalizing their agricultural sector so as to ensure food and nutrition security, improve livelihoods of their people and ensure economic growth. It is in this perspective that the ADECEA (EU-ACP- EDULINK II) project was conceptualized. It focused on strengthening Agricultural training capacity of three selected Universities in these three post-conflict countries, and assist them develop quality post graduates programmes that is relevant to the needs of the market. These Universities are running the Licence (5 years undergraduate training), Master (3 years) and Doctorate (4-6 years) system which need to be aligned to 3-2-3 years LMD system to meet the international standards and facilitate integration of the trained professional at regional (Eastern, Central and Southern Africa) and international levels.

ADECEA also aimed at strengthening the partnership between institutions in the north and south, and facilitating staff networking and establishment of demand driven postgraduate training in three countries (DRC, Burundi

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and Madagascar). Five academic programmes instead of the three formerly envisaged were developed at University of Antananarivo (Madagascar), University of Burundi (Burundi) and Catholic University of Bukavu (DRC). Three were launched last year in Windhoek during the RUFORUM Annual General Meeting (AGM), and two will be launched in Cape town, in October 2016. The action also supported capacity building through upgrading the qualifications of some of the academic staff. A total of 4 staff from D.R. Congo have completed their training, and 4 from Burundi are finalising their MSc studies at Makerere University. An LMD strategy for the three post conflict countries was developed and will be launched during the Cape Town meeting.

### Partnership in ADECEA- EDULINK II project

ADECEA consortium involve strategic partners to support demand articulation, linking the three targeted African universities in three post conflict countries (Universite Catholique de Bukavu, Universite du Burundi and Universite d'Antananarivo) to three well established European Universities (2 in France :Montpellier and Bordeaux; and one in Belgium: Universite de Gand), one in Africa (Makerere University), the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM), Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA) and Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA).

### Aims & Objectives of the side Event

ADECEA is organising a side event in Cape Town including the training of university managers and staff, training of students, holding the Steering Committee meeting and having an exhibition to promote visibility of the action. The objective of the training side event is to enhance managerial, pedagogic and administrative skills of top University managers and staff, enhance student skills on the use of social media and scientific publications. During these events three ready to implement MSc programmes from Burundi and D.R. Congo and the strategy for alignment to LMD system will be launched. The side event, will also enable the consortium to consolidate the third year reports (financial and technical), organise a steering committee meeting, share experience in implementation of the ADECEA project with other stakeholders from the region and to brainstorm on the plan to scale up the initiative. In addition,

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ADECEA Project under the leadership of the coordinating University, Makerere University, together with AGRINATURA and RUFORUM will hold a Meta learning event on Higher Education initiatives on Thursday 20 October 2016 at the RUFORUM 2016 Biennial Conference venue.

### Approach and Methodology

The side events will be organised as series of activities involving presentations by experts and panel discussants. The side events will be moderated by lead persons. At the end of the side events synthesis reports will be produced.

### Expected outputs

The side events will generate the following outputs:

1. A report on the launch of the three ready MSc programmes
2. Two reports on training of University managers and academic staff
3. A training report on skill enhancement training for graduate students
4. A report on META learning of Higher Education Initiatives in Africa
5. Final narrative and financial report
6. Report of the Steering Committee meeting
7. Monitoring and evaluation report
8. Published course modules and LMD strategy
9. Draft concept note to the 2017 ERASMUNDUS call and other funding opportunities
10. Nine staff and managers trained on Pedagogic skills and university administration
11. Ten students from the three targeted countries trained on socio-media, publication and data analysis

### Venue and Participants

**Venue :** Stay Easy and Century City Conference Centre

**Time & Date:** Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> –Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2016 (Meeting Room Stay Easy) and 20<sup>th</sup> October 2016, Hall A, Century City Conference Centre

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Participants are the ADECEA –EDULINK II project members

This event is co-funded by RUFORUM and ADECEA Project, and hosted by Makerere University and RUFORUM

### Side Event Organizers and Contact

This session will be facilitated jointly by Makerere University & RUFORUM

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### Side Event Programme

DATE	ITEM
14 <sup>th</sup>	Arrival of Participants
15 <sup>th</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup>	Training of University Managers on Institutional Leadership and Governance Training of Deans on Curriculum Development Training of Graduate Students on Social Media Reporting
17 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting of the Steering Committee
18 <sup>th</sup>	Training of Students on Technical Skill Writing and Data Management
19 <sup>th</sup>	Regional learning on Higher Education Initiatives in Africa
20 <sup>th</sup>	Participatory assessment of progress in implementation of ADECEA
21 <sup>st</sup>	Designing a scaling up strategy and Developing proposal to Erasmus 2017 call

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