



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

**“Transforming African Agricultural Universities to meaningfully contribute to Africa’s growth and development (TAGDEv)”**

### Concept Note

#### Introduction & Background

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The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) and member universities in partnership with the MasterCard Foundation are implementing a project, TAGDEv which aims at strengthening the capacity of African Agricultural universities and their graduates to transform agriculture and accelerate growth and development of sustainable livelihoods in Africa. The Project will achieve this through, transformation of university curricula and linked activities to strengthen university capacity to produce graduates with appropriate skills to engage with communities and conduct research that addresses the needs of smallholder farmers, and further facilitate entrepreneurship development at community level. Best practices on teaching and learning emerging from the program will be documented and shared globally as research and policy briefs, research papers in referred journals and conferences. These will form the basis for scaling out to the wider RUFORUM Network.

The project is founded on four interfacing objectives namely; (a) Piloting a new model of agricultural education at early adopter universities that connects tertiary agricultural education to rural communities, with an emphasis on smallholder farmers; (b) strengthening agribusiness/entrepreneurship at two universities and selected TVET institutions; (c) scaling the new model for agricultural education to other agricultural universities and TVET institutions and (d) increased collaboration and mutual learning among institutions and agencies implementing and influencing innovative Tertiary Agricultural Education

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	for rural transformation in Africa. These objectives help define the action points for the project will seek to achieve over the course eight years.
<b>Purpose of the Side Event</b>	<p>An implementation planning meeting held in August 2016 highlighted key documents required for the successful operation of the TAGDev projects. One of the essential documents is the monitoring and evaluation plan, a guiding document clarifying how the M &amp; E system should be run. The project team will meet to review the plan in addition to the suggestions for the improved online platform (RIMS) so as to increase relevance to the project.</p> <p><b>The meeting will be held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2016 (19:00-21:00 HRS)</b></p>
<b>Objectives of the meeting</b>	<p>Discuss and provide input into the:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Discuss the project implementation work plan</li> <li>b. Discuss the key implementation and guiding documents including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The SOPs</li> <li>• Recruitment guidelines</li> <li>• Recruitment tool</li> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation Plan</li> <li>• CARP call</li> <li>• Call for applications</li> <li>• Sample website</li> <li>• Review of the RIMS and applicable tools</li> </ul> </li> <li>c. Agree on timely delivery of activities set-out and realistically deliver on the project</li> </ol>
<b>Approach and Methodology</b>	RUFORUM, Gulu University and Egerton University are the key implementing partners in the TAGDev project financed by The MasterCard Foundation. As part of commencing project implementation harmonization of the project delivery documents and a sound

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	understanding of the key benchmarks during project delivery is critical. This closed meeting to project implementing partners with be an open facilitated discussion.
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