

# **REGIONAL CASE STUDY**

## **BUILDING CAPACITY OF THE POST CONFLICT COUNTRIES - RUFORUM EXPERIENCE AND CURRENT THRUSTS**

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# Presentation overview

- Context of RUFORUM Intervention
- SCARDA Case Study
- EDULINK II Initiative

# Context of RUFORUM Intervention: Why RUFORUM

- Foster integration of African Universities into the national agricultural innovation systems;
- Provide a platform for training quality graduates to support development processes in Africa, especially CAADP;
- Rationalize resource use and enhance economies of scale and scope; and,
- Provide a platform for networking, resource mobilization and advocacy for HAE in Africa

# About RUFORUM

- ❑ A consortium of 32 universities in 18 countries
- ❑ Secretariat based at Makerere University, Kampala Uganda
- ❑ [www.ruforum.org](http://www.ruforum.org)



# RUFORUM- the Change we want



High performing African universities that strive to produce skilled, proactive graduates, demand driven research output and innovation in response to regional and national agricultural development priorities.

Increased Influence  
of  
RUFORUM  
Universities

Increased Influence  
of  
RUFORUM alumni

RUFORUM becomes  
Regional Reference  
Point

**STRATEGIES FOR BUILDING  
AGRICULTURE RESEARCH CAPACITY IN  
POST CONFLICT COUNTRIES - SCARDA  
CASE STUDY**

# ABOUT SCARDA

- Institutional Approach to support CD in targeted post conflict countries
- Goal of SCARDA
  - *strengthening the institutional and human capacity of African agricultural research systems to identify generate and deliver research outputs that meet the needs of poor people*
- Implemented based on the Principle of Subsidiarity in 12 Focal Institutions
  - *10 countries of ASARECA, CORAF/WECARD, and SADC/FARN*
- In ASARECA region participating Institutions were: ISAR (Rwanda), ISABU (Burundi) and ARC (Sudan)

# SCARDA – An Institutional capacity building Approach

Scooping studies

Institutional Analysis

Implementation



# Key Thrusts of SCARDA

## Component 1

Strengthening capacity to conduct high quality research in an innovation systems context

## Component 2

Strengthening competencies and capacity in agricultural research management

## Component 3

Tracer Studies of university graduates to support development and implementation of relevant curricula

## Component 4

SCARDA Approach for capacity strengthening documented, validated with and owned by key stakeholders

# MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

- Strengthened capacities of NARS institutions by training:
  - 34 MSc. level young scientists with a unique combination of skills
  - Skill enhancement training for Technicians,
  - Leadership training for Research Managers
- Catalyzing INSTITUTIONAL change PROCESSES in target institutions
- Communities of practice formed by the beneficiaries from the post conflict countries for continuous collaboration at individual and institutional levels
- Enhanced university and NARI collaborations

# LESSONS FROM SCARDA

- Success of CD dependent on in-depth and participatory institutional analysis for buy in and relevance
- Strategic visioning key to realize long term impact
- Capacity building should not only focus on individual training but also institutional and organizational development
- Rigorous planning, consultation and budgeting are critical
- Partnership is very critical in capacity building efforts
- Importance of Innovative teaching methods

# MAIN CHALLENGES FOR SCARDA

- Delayed formalisation of working relationships between partners and getting them on the same level of understanding and involvement
- Complex M&E of the project and institutional change processes
- Documenting and reporting change process, outcomes and impact
- Sustaining the outcomes

# **EDULINK II: STRENGTHENING CAPACITY OF CEC FOR POST GRADUATE TRAINING THROUGH STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS**

# Partnerships for Strengthening Post Graduate Training in CEC

- Re-build capacity in Burundi, DRC and Madagascar Institutions to develop the Agricultural sector
  - Undertake institutional analysis in the target universities and establish demand for post graduate programmes
  - Design 3 demand-driven masters programmes, 1 per target country
- Develop detailed course content for the three masters programmes

# Partnerships for Strengthening Post Graduate Training in CEC

- Undertake pedagogy training for the staff including exposure to new teaching delivery methods
- Pilot groups of masters students recruited in the newly developed masters programs
- Develop a program for alignment with LMD system and pilot it
- Enhance engagement of strategic partners
- Establishment of outreach initiatives through creative agri-business activities

# Partnerships for Strengthening Post Graduate Training in CEC

- Makerere University
- University of Ghent
- SupAgro
- Agreenium
- RUFORUM

The project is supported by ACP-EU EDULINK II



# ASARECA Identified Key thrust areas in Post Conflict Countries

- Establish graduate programmes in the science disciplines on which sustainable supply of human resource for research will depend
- Increase the numbers of high level qualifications ( both NARS and Universities) for improved and quality of research
- Establish mechanisms for mentoring and coaching the weaker NARS as a professional development short term stop gap measures capacity
- Strengthen the human resource capacity in NARs with short term trainings to address capacity gaps

Thank  
You

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