

# Press Release



For immediate release | 14 June, 2018

## Program for the Sixth Higher Education Week and 2018 RUFORUM Biennial Conference released

**Kampala 14 June, 2018.** The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) is pleased to release the draft programme for the Sixth African Higher Education Week and the RUFORUM Biennial Conference which is scheduled for 22-26 October, 2018 at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre in Nairobi, Kenya. The theme of the biennial is *“Aligning African Universities to accelerate attainment of Africa’s Agenda 2063”*.

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) holds a conference every two years to bring together African scientists, students, policy makers, researchers, private sector and media among others across the continent in one platform to share and learn from each other for the common cause of advancing the contribution of universities to Africa’s continent’s development agenda. Since 2007, a total of five conferences have so been held in Malawi, Uganda, Mozambique and South Africa respectively and this year, it will take place in Kenya.

This Sixth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial conference will focus on how best African universities could support agriculture transformation in the continent and the needed action to strengthen African Higher Education and Science, Technology and Innovation development in the continent. The Conference will therefore provide opportunity for participants to showcase the frontiers of their innovation and entrepreneurship for universities to demonstrate their repositioning to responding to national and regional development needs of the agri-food system especially those of farmers and other allied sectors.

It will further bring the private sector to explore how it can contribute to social entrepreneurship and actively participate in accelerating university and farming communities’ transformation to sustain enterprise development in Africa. The Conference is expected to engage development partners and governments to articulate innovative funding mechanisms that propel university transformation for impact.


Please find the draft programme below and visit the [conference website](#) for more details.


**Notes to Editors:**

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM), is a consortium of 85 African universities operating in 36 countries on the continent with a Vision for vibrant, transformative universities catalysing sustainable, inclusive agriculture development to feed and create prosperity for Africa. RUFORUM was established by Vice Chancellors in 2004 with a Secretariat hosted at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda. In 2014 RUFORUM signed a MoU with the African Union Commission to support implementation of the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA 2024) Priority One on reducing poverty and ensuring food and nutrition security. To-date RUFORUM has supported the training of 1716 MSc and 436 PhD graduates, of whom 94% work in their countries or region, the generation of over 300 agricultural technologies and mobilized over US\$169 million for strengthening postgraduate education in Africa. Please visit [www.ruforum.org](http://www.ruforum.org) for more information.

For additional information, photos and interviews, contact the Corporate Communications, & Advocacy officer below;



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## The Sixth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference 2018 DRAFT PROGRAMME

DAY	MORNING SESSIONS AND SIDE EVENTS	BREAK	MID-MORNING SESSIONS AND SIDE EVENTS	LUNCH	AFTERNOON SESSIONS AND SIDE EVENTS	BREAK	EVENING SESSIONS AND EVENTS
<b>WEDNESDAY 17</b>	Local Organising Committee (LOC) and RUFORUM staff meeting		Local Organising Committee (LOC) and RUFORUM staff meeting				
<b>THURSDAY 18</b>	Arrival of Deans and Principals		Arrivals of Deans and Principals				Principals and Deans Interactive meeting with Secretariat staff
<b>FRIDAY 19</b>	IPR – WIPO Training for Principals and Deans		IPR – WIPO Training for Principals and Deans		IPR – WIPO Training for Principals and Deans		
<b>SATURDAY 20 October, 2018</b>	Pre –conference events  IPR – WIPO Training for Principals and Deans  Sentinel project   RUFORUM Technical Committee Meeting  Public Relations and Communication Officers Training  Students Social Media Training	<b>1000-1030</b>	Pre –conference events  IPR – WIPO Training for Principals and Deans  Sentinel project  RUFORUM Technical Committee Meeting  Public Relations and Communication Officers Training  Students Social Media Training	<b>1300-1400</b>	Pre –conference events  IPR – WIPO Training for Principals and Deans  Sentinel project  RUFORUM Technical Committee Meeting  Public Relations and Communication Officers Training  Students Social Media Training	<b>1645-1730</b>	Open Space

<p><b>SUNDAY</b> <b>21 October,</b> <b>2018</b></p>	<p>RUFORUM International Advisory Panel Meeting</p> <p>Leadership and Management Skills Training for Academic Leaders (Principals and Deans)</p> <p>Carnegie-RUFORUM Post doc.</p> <p>Personal Mastery for students</p> <p>Forum for Women Vice Chancellors in Africa</p> <p>Africa-Australia university Network (AAUN) side event</p> <p>Public Relations and Communication Officers Training</p>	<p><b>1000-1030</b></p>	<p>RUFORUM International Advisory Panel Meeting</p> <p>Leadership and Management Skills Training for Academic Leaders (Principals and Deans)</p> <p>Carnegie-RUFORUM Post doc</p> <p>Personal Mastery for students</p> <p>Forum for Women Vice Chancellors in Africa</p> <p>Africa-Australia university Network (AAUN) side event</p> <p>Public Relations and Communication Officers Training</p>	<p><b>1300-1400</b></p>	<p>RUFORUM International Advisory Panel Meeting</p> <p>Leadership and Management Skills Training for Academic Leaders (Principals and Deans)</p> <p>Carnegie-RUFORUM Post doc</p> <p>Forum for Women Vice Chancellors in Africa</p> <p>Poster set-up</p> <p>Africa-Australia university Network (AAUN) side event</p> <p>Public Relations and Communication Officers Training</p>	<p><b>1630-1700</b></p> <p><b>1800-2130</b></p>	<p>Open Space</p> <p>Vice Chancellors' Dinner</p> <p>Students evening</p>
<p><b>MONDAY</b> <b>22 October,</b> <b>2018</b></p>	<p>RUFORUM Board Meeting</p> <p>Forum for Women Vice Chancellors in Africa</p> <p>RUFORUM Principals and Deans Meeting (Outcome evaluation of RUFORUM)</p> <p>Students field visit</p>	<p><b>1000-1030</b></p>	<p>RUFORUM Board Meeting</p> <p>Forum for Women Vice Chancellors in Africa</p> <p>RUFORUM Principals and Deans Meeting (Closed door meeting)</p> <p>Students field visit</p>	<p><b>1300-1400</b></p>	<p>RUFORUM Annual General Meeting</p> <p>Students field visit</p> <p>Exhibition &amp; Poster set-up</p>	<p><b>1730-2130</b></p>	<p>Open Space</p> <p>Welcome to Nairobi Cocktail (Chief Guest, Hon. Najib Balala, Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Tourism- (TBC)</p>

	<b>Side events</b> Africa-Australia Universities Network (AAUN) side event		<b>Side events</b> Africa-Australia Universities Network (AAUN) side event				
<b>TUESDAY 23 October, 2018</b>	Ministerial Round Table  AAP Side event  ASAF/TWAS Side Event  IP dialogue with Vice Chancellors  Breakfast meeting of Governors with Vice Chancellors (TBC)	<b>1000-1030</b>	Ministerial Round Table  Official opening and tour of Exhibitions & posters by Vice Chancellors  AAP Side event side event  ASSAF /TWAS Side Event  IP dialogue with Vice Chancellors	<b>1300-1400</b>	Official Opening Ceremony of the Sixth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference  Poster and Exhibition Viewing	<b>1730-2130</b>	Sponsored Dinner (TBC)
<b>WEDNESDAY 24 October, 2018</b>	<b>Plenary Session</b> <i>Theme: Towards Agenda 2063: Catalyzing university role in influencing policy and setting development agenda</i>	<b>1000-1030</b>	<b>Parallel Plenary 1:</b> <i>Converging the power of investment in Higher Education to transform Africa</i>	<b>1300-1400</b>	AUC-Ministers-Vice Chancellors dialogue	<b>1730-2130</b>	Open Space
			<b>Parallel Plenary 2:</b> <i>Harnessing regional and global partnerships for higher education innovation in Africa</i>		Parallel Sessions  Poster and Exhibition Viewing		
			<b>Parallel Plenary 3:</b> <i>Unravelling University, Community and Private Sector Engagement for agricultural transformation in Africa</i>				

<b>THURSDAY</b> <b>25 October,</b> <b>2018</b>	<b>Plenary Session</b> <b>Theme:</b> <i>Building high level skills to deliver on African Agenda 2063</i>	<b>1000-1030</b>	<b>Parallel Plenary 1:</b> <i>Skilling Africa's youth: the role of TVETS</i>	<b>1300-1400</b>	Young Innovators side event	<b>1730-2130</b>	Open Space	
			<b>Parallel Plenary 2:</b> <i>Harnessing the Africa Youth bulge: Innovation, entrepreneurship and agribusiness incubation</i>		Parallel Sessions			
			<b>Parallel Plenary 3:</b> <i>Increasing the pool of women scientists in Africa</i>		Development Partners meeting			
<b>FRIDAY</b> <b>26 October,</b> <b>2018</b>	<b>Plenary Session</b> <b>Theme:</b> <i>Moving Africa's development agenda forward: Ingredients for success</i>	<b>1000-1030</b>	<b>Parallel Plenary 1:</b> <i>Harnessing the digital potential to drive agricultural/Higher education transformation in Africa</i>	<b>1300-1400</b>	Closing Ceremony & Prize awards for Young Innovators	<b>1730-2130</b>	Gala Dinner	
			<b>Parallel Plenary 2:</b> <i>Building foresight capacity to guide Africa's development</i>					Poster and Exhibition Viewing
			<b>Parallel Plenary 3:</b> <i>Strengthening food and nutrition security in Africa</i>					
<b>SATURDAY</b> <b>27 October,</b> <b>2018</b>	Departures  Post Conference Events  Meeting of LOC, ROC, and Ghana 2019 AGM Committee	<b>1000-1030</b>	Departures  Post Conference Events  Meeting of LOC, ROC, and Ghana 2019 AGM Committee	<b>1300-1400</b>	Departures  Post Conference Events	<b>1645-1730</b>	Departures	