2019 RUFORUM Young African Entrepreneurs Competition
West Africa

Kampala 03 July 2019 The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM), a consortium of 114 Universities in 38 African Countries, is pleased to announce the 2019 RUFORUM Young African Entrepreneurs Competition (RUYAEC). The overall purpose of the RUFORUM Young African Entrepreneurs Competition (RUYAEC) is to catalyse entrepreneurship through promotion of business innovation and provision of seed funding to young entrepreneurs with creative and innovative business ideas among African youth. RUYAEC, through an online application, invites young African entrepreneurs and incubates below 35 years of age to compete for 20 awards that showcase their innovations, enterprises, business concepts and propositions. The areas of focus are Food and agribusiness, Incubations, ICTs, Health, Engineering, Natural resources, and Meteorology.

This third round of the RUFORUM Young Innovators Competition is targeted for West African (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Côte d’Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo) countries. The winners will be awarded during the RUFORUM Annual General meeting convening scheduled to take place from 2-6 December, 2019 at the University of Cape Coast in Ghana.

All the 2016 and 2018 RUFORUM Young Innovators awardees are NOT eligible to apply.

The RUYAEC operates within one of RUFORUM’s values and principles of creativity, seeking to offer opportunities to develop innovative solutions both in addressing the problems faced by smallholder farmers, and in managing research projects in remote areas. We are pleased to officially launch a call for RUFORUM Young African Entrepreneurs Competition 2019. Visit the website and apply online.

Submission Deadline
The deadline to submit for the 2019 RUFORUM Young African Entrepreneurs Competition is Monday 30th September 2019 at 17:00 Hours (GMT+3).
Established by African university vice chancellors in 2004, the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) is a consortium of 105 African universities operating in 37 countries on the continent with a vision to create “a vibrant agricultural sector linked to African universities which produce high-performing graduates and high-quality research responsive to the demands of Africa’s farmers for innovations and able to generate sustainable livelihoods and national economic development”. RUFORUM Secretariat is hosted by the Ministry of Education and Sports in Uganda with Secretariat at Makerere University in Kampala. In 2014, RUFORUM signed an 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. As of August 2017, RUFORUM has supported the training of 60 Under graduates, 1,883 MSc and 503 PhD graduates of whom 94% work in their home countries or region, generated over 300 agricultural technologies and mobilized over US$201 million for strengthening postgraduate education in Africa. Please visit www.ruforum.org for more information.

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

**Name:** Maureen Agena  
Corporate Communications, & Advocacy Officer  
**Email:** communications@ruforum.org