

Press Release



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RUFORUM awards 10 Post-Doctoral Fellowships

Kampala 03, August 2020 The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM), a consortium of 128 Universities in 38 African Countries, is pleased to announce the recipients of the **two year Post-doctoral Fellowships** funded by the [Carnegie Corporation of New York](#). The 10 Fellowships targeted former beneficiaries of regional doctoral training programmes funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York through RUFORUM. The Uganda National Agricultural Research Organisation ([NARO](#)) will co-fund two Fellowships to be based at the National Crops Resources Research Institute (NaCRRI) in Namulonge. The call for the Fellowships attracted **29 applicants** from **12 countries** in African from which, 10 final awardees were selected following evaluation by external reviewers.

The RUFORUM Post-Doctoral Fellowship Programme aims at increasing and ensuring high retention of African graduates in Africa in order to strengthen universities and research institutions capacity to meet the growing demand for higher education and research for creating knowledge and prosperity on the continent.

The Post-doctoral Fellowships Programme builds on, and helps to scale up, RUFORUM's commitment to strengthen postgraduate training and academic mobility in Africa.

"The Fellowship programme helps us to train the next generation of scientists and leaders in Africa. We plan to scale-up this initiative and we seek partnership with National Research Systems and other organisations" said **Professor Adipala Ekwamu, Executive Secretary, RUFORUM**

RUFORUM thanks the Carnegie Corporation of New York and National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO, Uganda) for funding the Fellowships and congratulates the 10 Post-Doctoral Fellowship recipients.

Table 1: Fellowships based at different RUFORUM Member Universities

No	Name	Country	Gender	Host Institution
1	Dr. Rolland Agaba	Uganda	Male	Makerere University
2	Dr. Miesho Belay Weldekidan	Ethiopia	Male	Aksum University
3	Dr. Emmanuel Masabo	Rwanda	Male	University of Rwanda
4	Dr. Mercy Ulemu Msiska	Malawi	Female	Mzuzu University
5	Dr. Natasha Mwila	Zambia	Female	University of Zambia
6	Dr. Frank Kumi	Ghana	Male	University of Cape Coast - Ghana

7	Dr. Ruth Magreta	Malawi	Female	Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources
8	Dr. Chloe Kemigabo	Uganda	Female	Makerere University

Table 2: Fellowships based at the National Crops Resources Research Institute, Namulonge, Uganda

No	Name	Country	Gender	Host Institution
9	Dr. Angele Ibanda Pembele	DR Congo	Female	Makerere University/ National Crops Resources Research Institute
10	Dr. Arfang Badji	Senegal	Male	Makerere University/ National Crops Resources Research Institute

For more information regarding the fellowship, please contact r.rukarwa@ruforum.org and copy w.adidja@ruforum.org

Notes to Editors:

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM), is a consortium of 128 African universities operating in 38 countries on the continent with a mission to ‘strengthen the capacities of Universities to foster innovations responsive to demands of smallholder farmers through the training of high quality researchers, the output of impact oriented research and the maintenance of collaborative working relations among researchers, farmers, national agricultural research institutions’. RUFORUM was established by Vice Chancellors in 2004 with a Secretariat hosted at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda. 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. RUFORUM has supported the training of 1919 MSc and 525 PhD graduates, of whom 94% work in their countries or region, the generation of over 300 agricultural technologies and mobilized over US\$208 million for strengthening postgraduate education in Africa. Please visit www.ruforum.org for more information.

For additional information, photos and interviews, contact Ms Maureen Agena, Corporate Communications, & Advocacy officer below.

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