

CTA SWOT ANALYSIS MEETING

RUFORUM programme and priorities

13-15 November 2013

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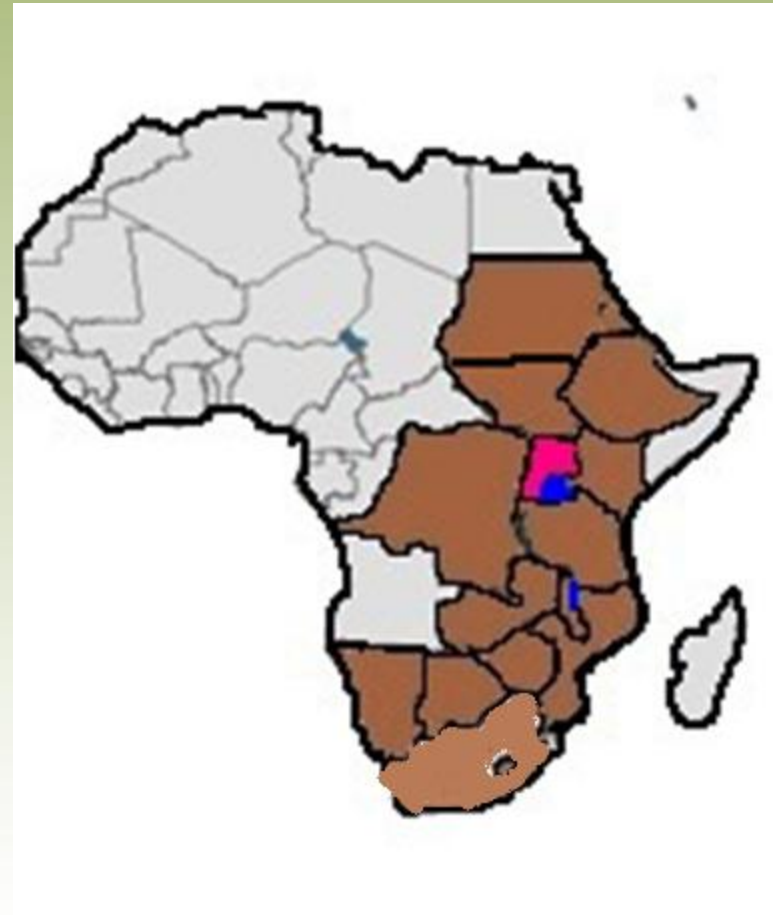


Presentation outline

- **Genesis and objectives of RUFORUM**
- **RUFORUM's intervention scope / approach**
- **Some highlights of achievements**
- **Issues / reflections in moving forward**

RUFORUM

- The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture
- Formerly a Rockefeller Funded Project which was called FORUM (1992-2003). RUFORUM established in 2004;
- 32 Member Universities in 18 countries
- Secretariat at Makerere University, Kampala Uganda





RUFORUM founded by African Vice Chancellors to:

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

Strategic Plan (2006 – 2015)

Business Plan (2011 – 2016)



RUFORUM Strategic Goals

- 1. Capacity building (MSc, PhD, Post-doctoral & short courses)**
- 2. Rationalized resource use for training & research**
- 3. Impact-oriented research in universities**
- 4. Increase in the participation and voice of women in agricultural research, production and marketing**
- 5. Increase the use of technology to support effective, decentralized learning and the sharing of knowledge**
- 6. Advocacy, coordination & resource mobilization**



RUFORUM's current intervention scope

- **Competitive grants for enhancing rural innovation- GRG/ CARP/ FAPA/DoGs**
- **Regional programmes for building capacity for capacity building**
- **Institutional strengthening/ nurturing grants**
- **Collective resource mobilization at Regional level**
- **Facilitation of individual/ groups of universities for joint actions**
- **Networking and advocacy functions**



Some key achievements

- **7 regional PhD** programmes established
 - Dryland Resource Management
 - Plant Breeding and Biotechnology
 - Soil and Water Management
 - Aquaculture and Fisheries Science
 - Agricultural and Resource Economics
 - Agricultural and Rural Innovations
 - Food Science and Nutrition
 - **155 total**
- **3 regional Masters** programmes established
 - Plant Breeding and Seed Systems
 - Research Methods
 - Agricultural Information and Communication Management
- **150 competitive** grants awarded to date
 - **750 total**

Small grant impacts: The Case of Soybean in Zimbabwe

- **University of Zimbabwe introduced and popularized soybean (nutritious legume; good commercial potential; enhances soil fertility).**

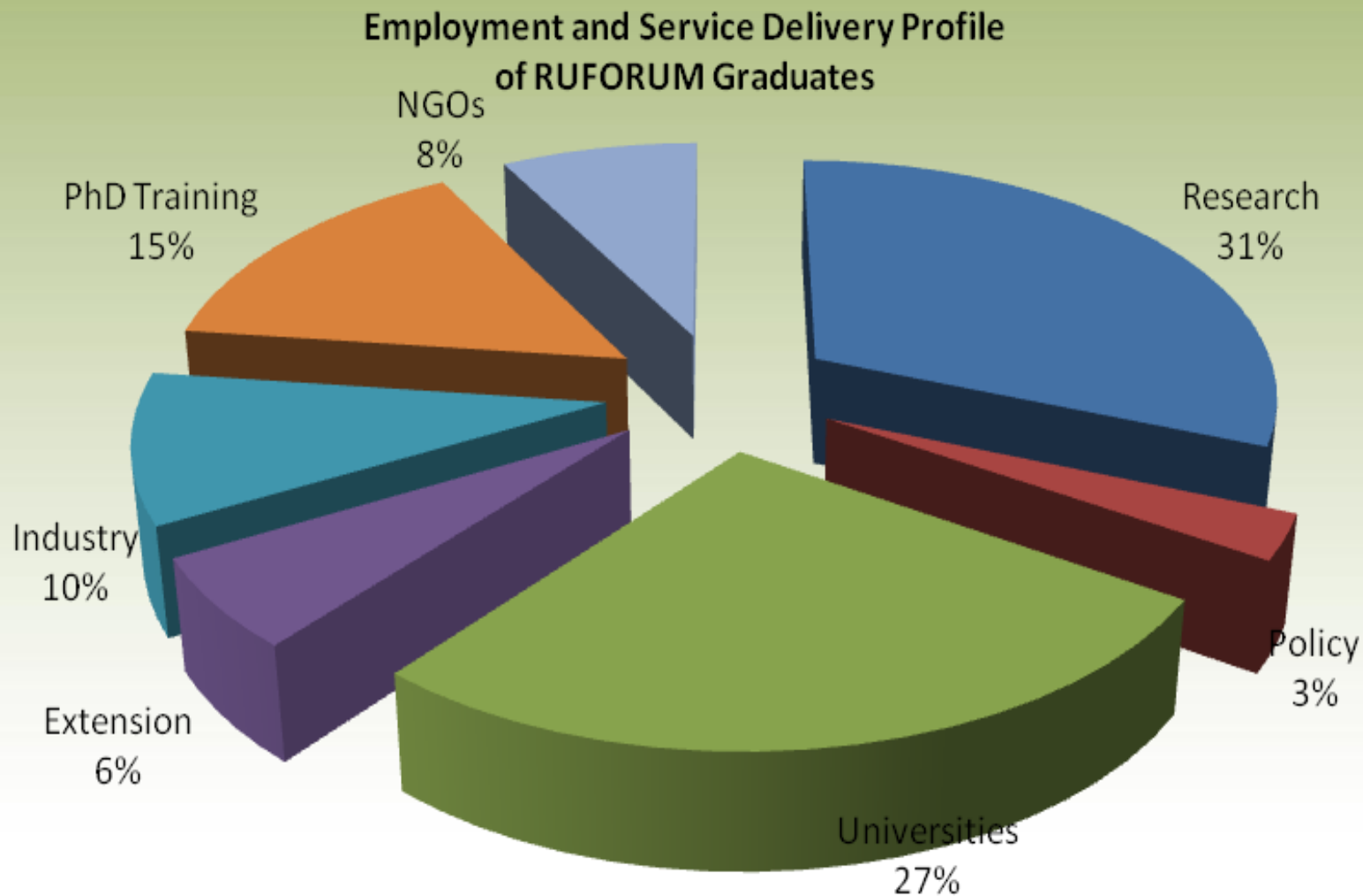
Outcomes:

- **20 MSc students trained and over 30,000 farmers empowered in 6 years**
- **Contributed to relevant research addressing real problems**
- **Reduction in malnutrition in under 5's**
- **Savings on Nitrogen fertilizer costs**
- **Attraction of other donor funds**
- **Linkages with private sector, NGOS**



“The University of Zimbabwe is now coordinating the Zimbabwe Grain Legume and Oil Program that links research, training and outreach

Where do RUFORUM Graduates go?





Some key achievements (cont'd)

- Strengthened resource mobilization in member universities – for research, training, outreach: **e.g. €8m from last ACP Mobility call – direct to Universities**
- Provided a platform for strengthening the use of ICTs in TAE
 - **29 OER courses developed and in use**
 - **RUFORUM Network Moodle Platform established**
- 32 universities committed to staff exchange through MoU under **Teaching Assistantship Programme** (internal self help action)

Some key capacity-related issues in moving forward



- Who is a high quality graduate and what does it take to produce one? – **moving target**
- The need to demonstrate that increasing numbers of PhDs and MScs contributes to wider system performance
- **Partnerships** has played a pivotal role in what RUFORUM has achieved to-date - **need to strengthen; remain proactive and engaged**
- Many initiatives and institutions an ever evolving landscape – **how to effectively stay informed and engaged** (ref. **Wim's presentation**)



Some key capacity-related issues in moving forward

- A strategy to strengthen **university – policy engagement**
- **Professionals in the diaspora** – who are they? Where can they contribute? How do we engage them?
- Increasing demands - **both internal and external – expansion, resources, etc**



Some key capacity-related issues in moving forward

CASE STUDIES:

RUFORUM: Kenyan Universities example

ASARECA: ASARECA NARIs example

Fresh Staffing Crisis in Public Universities

University	No. of Students	Professors	Associate Professors	Senior Lecturers		Assistant Lecturers	Total Academic Staff
Nairobi	57162	124	231	318	696	42 (+174 tutorial fellows and 25 Graduate Assistants)	1610
Moi	34477	42	50	113	309	120 (+52 Graduate Assistants and 50 Tutorial Fellows)	736
Kenyatta	61928	27	60	120	455	59 (+223 Tutorial Fellows and 16 Teaching Assistants)	961
Egerton	20525	12	41	115	222	119	509
JKUAT	24113	23	50	94	219	230 (+94 Teaching Assistants)	710
Maseno	10332	22	41	113	0	123 (+46 Tutorial Fellows)	345
Masinde Muliro	10325	15	22	48	233	0	318

Daily Nation 16th March 2013: <http://www.nation.co.ke/News/Fresh-staffing-crisis-in-public-universities/-/1056/1721330/-/item/0/-/lbjc28/-/index.html>

*Thank
You*

**A very strong message of
appreciation for the support from all
partners at national, regional,
international levels**

