Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM)

Fostering Innovation and Adaptive Capacity of Universities

Description	RUFORUM is a consortium of 29 universities in Eastern, Central, and Southern Africa. RUFORUM has a mandate to oversee graduate training and networks of specialization in the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) countries. Specifically, RUFORUM recognizes the important and largely unfulfilled role that universities play in contributing to the well-being of small-scale farmers and economic development of countries throughout the sub-Saharan Africa region. RUFORUM's overall guiding principle is proactive engagement with stakeholders in graduate training, research, and development processes.
Purpose	RUFORUM's mission is to strengthen the capacities of universities to foster innovations responsive to demands of small-holder 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, and governments.
Scope	International – Regional focus: Eastern, Central, and Southern Africa (with some projects in West Africa).
Primary Funders	Funding of university research and training is largely provided by the public sector (government and development Partners' community); however, opportunities to mobilize resources from public-private sector partnerships, inter-sectoral linkages, and regional and international networks are being explored.
Participants & Key Collaborators	Member universities are located in at least 16 countries of Eastern, Central, and Southern Africa. Key partners include over 150 NGOs (within and outside Africa), governments, universities, foundations, initiatives, networks, research centers, and corporations.
Definition of One Health	None. However, the work of RUFORUM supports strengthening public health activities with a one health approach addressing human and animal health jointly.
Monitoring & Evaluation Strategy	RUFORUM has a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) strategy that involves determining the relevance, effectiveness and efficiency of activities in meeting overall program objectives and providing means of taking corrective actions as needed. Overall program objectives, outcomes and impact are externally evaluated on a 3-5 year basis.
Sources of Information	RUFORUM Website: http://www.ruforum.org/
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