

Eastern and Southern Africa Higher Education Centers of Excellence Project (ACE II)

Technical and Advisory Meeting for Leaders of Centers of Excellence

October 24-26, 2016
Nairobi, Kenya

AGENDA

IUCEA October 2016. Agenda ACE II Conference
Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA)/
Regional Facilitation Unit (RFU)
Kampala, Uganda

Concept Note

Technical and Advisory Meeting for Center Leaders

Eastern and Southern Africa Higher Education Centers of Excellence Project (ACE II)

24-26 October 2016,
Intercontinental Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya

*“Achieving Sustainable Development through Transformation
of Higher Education in Eastern and South Africa”*

Overview: The Project Launch for the Eastern and Southern Africa Higher Education Centers of Excellence Project (ACE II) will be held during a conference in Nairobi, Kenya on October 26, 2016. The conference will be an opportunity for the 24 Eastern and Southern Africa Centers of Excellence (ACEs) to engage in an open dialogue and discussions with peers, experts and members of the Regional Steering Committee (RSC) on fundamentals for development of robust and sustainable higher education centers of excellence. A technical and advisory meeting for Center leaders of the ACEs will take place on **October 24-26**, 2016, whereas the RSC meeting will take place on **October 26-27**, 2016. The event for the project launch will be on October 26 at 14:00. The October 26 sessions will be similar for the Center leaders and the RSC members. The project launch title is *“Achieving Sustainable Development through Transformation of Higher Education in Eastern and South Africa”*. The launch will take place in the first year of ACE II activities after some ACEs and IUCEA/[RFU] are expected to have achieved effectiveness conditions.

Goal and Purpose: The objective of the conference is to officially launch the ACE II project, and through an open dialogue ensure that all ACEs and participating countries reach effectiveness as soon as possible.

Specific objectives include:

- a) Review readiness for implementation, discuss emerging challenges and proposed recommendations
- b) Provide a platform to networking among the ACEs -particularly on partnerships and accreditation
- c) Present and discuss the expected project operations procedures and
- d) Learn from ACE I experiences

The conference provide an opportunity for ACEs to discuss project challenges share experience and expand their understanding of the strengths and opportunities that ACE II provides to participating ACEs. It is also an important platform for experience sharing and network building across national and professional boundaries. It is at the same time a very important platform for effective and efficient transfer of information to the ACEs. Proposed sessions will include presentations on an update ACEs effectiveness, an overview report on implementation plans, reporting requirements, verification of disbursement linked indicators and results (DLIs/DLRs) and mechanisms for disbursement of funds. There will be open discussion sessions for ACEs and their stakeholders to discuss some recap on design and project implementation. Important sessions will include monitoring and evaluation (M&E) procedures, timelines, expected results and requirements. In addition, there will be sessions on financial management, procurement procedures and audit requirements and plans.

Outcome: The Center leaders of the 24 ACEs, are expected to have a clear road map for reaching effectiveness, and meet all required criteria to receive the first installment (including establishment of dedicated bank accounts). The RSC is expected to examine its *modus operandi* and see if any adjustments are required so that the project moves into the implementation phase. Center leaders and their stakeholders will discuss and agree on an agenda that is expected to guide several important landmarks of the ACE II project. The conference attendees will discuss ways they can fast-track several activities, for example, how to implement project activities in a timely manner, timely quarterly, bi-annual and annual implementation plans. The discussions will focus on forging partnerships and collaborations with national and international partners, leveraging activities on enrollment of new national and regional graduate (Masters and PhD) students and how to promptly promote exchange programs in research and teaching collaborations. The conference will present an occasion for peer

learning to some ACEs i.e. discuss with colleagues on how to fast track and meet effectiveness condition i.e. signing of performance and financing agreement (PFA) and establishment of National Steering Committee (NSC).

Hosts and venue: The proposed host of the project launch will be the IUCEA/[RFU] in collaboration with the RSC member in Kenya. The conference will take place Intercontinental Hotel, Nairobi, where the official unveiling of the ACE II will take place.

Program and Format: The program will include welcome and introductory remarks and key sessions: recap of the project design and implementation, project monitoring and evaluation, financial management, environmental and social safeguards. Besides there will be numerous discussions in breakout sessions based on ACEs broad disciplines. All breakout sessions will be facilitated by relevant technical experts – all details will be available as a package during the Launch at the Conference Reception.

Participants, presenters and Invited Guests: The RSC, the Center Leaders of the 24 ACEs, the WB Team and other stakeholders are expected to attend the project launch. In order to ensure a mechanism of mutual partnership, it is anticipated that the Deputy Center Leaders are invited at the sponsorship of their respective Universities/institutions.

Other important invited guests expected to be sponsored by their institutions will include the Vice Chancellors/Rectors/Presidents and/or his/her representative, key representatives from partner institutions and industries.

Conclusion: The project launch will provide an opportunity to understand more about the ACE II implementation requirements. The conference will be a showcase of the commitment to the projects implementation, as well as an opportunity to draw strong bonds with partners, leaders in the host African Universities, stakeholders and clients i.e. students who will be the pillar for a successful ACE II project.

Annexes:

- Agenda for technical and advisory meeting for Center Leaders of the Centers of Excellence
- Agenda for the RSC committee meeting

Eastern and Southern Africa Higher Education Centers of Excellence
Technical and Advisory Meeting for Center Leaders of Centers of Excellence
October 24-26, 2016 Nairobi, Kenya

AGENDA

DAY 1: Monday, October 24, 2016

TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBILITY
8.00 – 8.30	Registration	IUCEA/ Regional Facilitation Unit (RFU)
Opening Session: Welcome Remarks and Introductions		
Overall Facilitator of the Conference: Prof. Nkunya Mayunga		
8:30 – 9:30:	Welcome and introductions:	Rapporteurs: Philip Ayoo and Winfred Itamba - Prof. David K. Some - Prof Alexandre Lyambabaje - Sajitha Bashir
9:30 - 10:00	The Facilitator: Requests Center Leaders to introduce their teams, while participants i.e. World Bank team, IUCEA and Expert Panelists are recognized in groups. Chair: Dr Cosam Joseph <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome Remarks by RSC from Kenya • Opening remarks IUCEA Executive Secretary • Remarks by WB Education Practice Manager 	
10:00 - 10: 30	Overview of the Workshop: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objectives and expected outcomes¹ • Overview of the day’s proceedings 	- Dr. Eugene Mutimura
10:30 -11:00	Group Photo and Health Break	
Recap of The ACE II Project: Design and Project Implementation Modalities		
11:00 – 12: 00	Chair: Prof. David K. Some Recap of the project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objectives • Expected results • Project implementation • Monitoring & Evaluation (achieving disbursement linked indicators and Results (DLIs/ DLRs) 	- Xiaonan Cao
12:00 – 12:30	Project Update	- Dr. Eugene Mutimura
12:30- 13:00	Q&A	

¹ **Provide Information on Expectations of Center Leaders for the Workshop**

- Based on Center leaders’ expectations, a summary of expectations is written
- Participants are requested to add more expectations at the Meeting

13:00 -14:00	LUNCH BREAK	
CENTER LEADERS SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCES: Discussion on Major Challenges Faced: Would it be setting up Teams, Working with other Faculty, Benchmarking, Partnerships etc.?		
	Chair: Prof. David K. Some	
14:00 – 14: 30	• Guideline to Breakout Session *2	- Carl E. Larsen
14:30-16:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakout sessions (breakout into four cluster groups based on broad disciplines. Discussion will be based on ACEs implementation plans (IPs), see below) - Discussion on Major Challenges Faced by ACEs based on ACEs specific IPs - Outline ACEs Project Management Challenges & Possible Solutions with specific reference to ACEs IPs 	Technical Experts: - Agric: Carl E. Larsen - STEM: Prof Crispus Kiamba - Health: Rosemary Sunkutu - Statistics: Prof Alexandre Lyambabaje - Education: the WB Education team
16:15 – 16:45	HEALTH BREAK	
16:15 – 17:30	Breakout sessions continue	
17:30 –	END OF DAY 1	

DAY 2: Tuesday, October 25, 2016

TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBILITY
8.00 – 8.30	Sign in	Winfred Itamba
	Chair: Prof Alexandre Lyambabaje	
8:30 – 8:45	Rapporteurs: Overview of Day 1 proceedings (linked to the participants and organizers expectations)	Philip Ayoo & Winfred Itamba
ACE I Experiences: Understanding procedures and essential project mechanisms e.g. What have been the major experiences on project partnerships, resources mobilization, working with industry, reporting and sustainability?		
8:45 - 9:30	Plenary Presentations by the four Groups (<i>Power point slides as a guideline to plenary presentations</i>)	
9:30-10:30	ACE I Experiences on University /Centers of Excellence level Q & A	- Prof Barnabas Ikyo
10:30 - 11:00	HEALTH BREAK	
Project Monitoring & Evaluation, Financial Management & Safe guards		
	Chair: Ekua Nuama Bentil	
	Presentations:	
11:00 – 11:40	• Disbursement arrangements	- Mr. Issa Thiam
11:40- 12:40	• M&E and Verification Process of the Results	- Carl Erik Larsen
12:40– 13:15	• Introduction to Financial management	- Patrick Tete
	• Introduction to Environmental & Social Safeguards	- Herbert Oule
	Q & A included during the presentations	
13:15- 14:00	LUNCH BREAK	

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*Breakout sessions in broad disciplines:

- Agriculture
- Education and Applied Statistics
- Health
- STEM

Focus:

- Open Discussions on the Project
- Challenges and Concerns on project management process
- Strengths to advance the projects
- Outcome Major Challenges faced by ACEs

The ACE I Experts will rotate among the groups to gain insights in the challenges faced by the ACEs in ACE II

**Sharing Experiences:
Linkage with Industry in developing a generation of New Masters and PhD Students**

14:00 – 14:30 14:30- 16:00	<p><i>Chair:</i> Dr. Cosam Joseph</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidelines to Breakout sessions³ • Brief guidelines from ACE I Experience • Break Out sessions (Break out into four cluster groups based on broad disciplines with reference to ACEs IPs and broad disciplines, see below) - Knowledge sharing/ Experiences on investment in strategic academic & industrial partnerships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prof Carl E. Larsen - Prof Barnabas Ikyo <p>Technical Experts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agric: Carl E. Larsen - STEM: Prof Crispus Kiamba - Health: Rosemary Sunkutu - Statistics: Prof Alexandre Lyambabaje - Education: the WB Education team
16:00 – 16:30	HEALTH BREAK	
16:30 – 17:30	<p>Plenary Presentations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plenary Presentations on outcome of breakout sessions by the four Groups on capacity building needs (<i>Power point slides as a guideline to plenary presentations</i>) • Q & A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Group Presentations
END DAY 2		
18:00 – 19:30	NETWORKING DINNER	

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Breakout sessions in broad disciplines:

- Agriculture
- Education and Applied Statistics
- Health
- STEM

Focus:

- Open Discussions on the linkage with industry
- Challenges and Concerns on linkages with academia and industry

DAY 3: Wednesday, 26th October 2016

8:00 – 8:30	Sign in	Winfred Itamba
8:30 – 8:45	<p>Chair: Dr. Eugene Mutimura</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of the day 3 and expectations (linked to the participants and organizers expectations) 	<p>Rapporteurs: Philip Ayoo & Winfred Itamba</p>
<p>Sharing Experiences by PASET and ACE I: Governance and Communication General introduction of PASET, share experiences on benchmarking, scholarship program, partnerships etc. How do PASET and/or ACE I experiences inform ACEs and IUCEA in managing various activities?</p>		
8:45 – 9:15 9:15 – 10:00 9:45 – 10:30	<p>Chair: Dr. Eugene Mutimura</p> <p>Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PASET Experience ACE I Experience (focus on regional and country level) Communication Strategy (Q & A incorporated into presentations) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sajitha Bashir - Prof Barnabas Ikyo - Agnes Asimwe- ACE II ICO
10:30-11:00	HEALTH BREAK	
<p>Experiences on Capacity building needs: ACEs, ACE I, Representative from Industry, RSC panelists share experiences on regional capacity building initiatives, discuss challenges and role of industry- University linkages. <i>EMPHASIS TO BE PUT ON SOLUTIONS TO CURRENT CHALLENGES</i></p>		
11:00 – 12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group Discussions by ACEs disciplines: Capacity Building Needs and Plans with <i>special emphasis on solutions how challenges have been addressed</i> How do the ACEs Center leaders and RSC and other Stakeholders work together? 	<p>Facilitator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prof Crispus Kiamba - Group Discussions by ACEs Disciplines
12:00 – 13:00	<p>Chair: Prof Kojo Appiah</p> <p>Panel Discussion: ACEs, RSC and representative from Industry share challenges and potential strengths to inform project implementation: What are the implications and significance of capacity building best practices to strengthen regional programs in higher education?</p> <p><i>Special emphasis will be put on solutions how challenges have been addressed</i></p>	<p>List of panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof Apia W. Massawa (IRPM & BTD) • Prof Mannase Mbonye (ACEIoT) • Prof Chiedza Maponga (Zimbabwe) • Prof Winston Soboyejo (USA) • Prof Birhanu Beshah (ARERI) • Dr. Richard Edema (MaCCI)
13:00 – 13:30	LUNCH BREAK	

PROGRAM FOR THE OFFICIAL ACE II PROJECT LAUNCH TO BE HELD ON 26TH OCTOBER 2016 IN NAIROBI, KENYA

Master of Ceremony: Prof. Crispus Kiamba

Time	Activity	Responsible Officer
13:30 pm - 14:00 pm	Arrival of invited guests and Registration	IUCEA
14:00 pm	Arrival of Guest of Honour	
14:05 pm - 14:10 Pm	Welcome Remarks by RSC Member, Kenya	Executive Secretary Commission for University Education
14: 11 pm - 14:15 pm	Statement from IUCEA/RFU	IUCEA ES
14:16 pm - 14:20pm	Statement from one of the ACE II project hosting Universities	Vice Chancellor from one of the hosting Universities
14:21 pm - 14:30 pm	Statement from World Bank	WB representative
14:31 pm - 14:35 pm	Remarks from Principal Secretary and inviting Guest of Honour	Principal Secretary
14:36pm - 15:00 pm	Remarks from Guest of Honour and Unveiling of ACE II Project	Hon Cabinet Secretary of Education Kenya
15:01 pm - 15:10 pm	Group Photograph	All participants
15:11 pm -	Press Conference, Refreshments and departure at leisure	All participants