MOI UNIVERSITY
AFRICA CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN
PHYTOCHEMICAL, TEXTILE AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

7th July 2018

STAFF EXCHANGE REPORT

Introduction
Africa Centre of Excellence in Phytochemicals, Textile and renewable Energy (ACE-PTRE) is a World Bank funded project through the Kenyan government. The main objective of the Centre is to be a regional epicentre of excellence in postgraduate training in the thematic areas of phytochemicals, textile and renewable energy. To achieve this, the Centre offers doctoral and master's studies in the key areas, setting up state of the art research laboratories and encouraging regional educational and research interactions through faculties/PhD students exchange programs, among other activities. Consequently, the Centre’s regional partners will be actively involved in the exchange programs over the duration of the project.

The Centre hosted two staff on exchange program from Gezira University in Sudan and Busitema University in Uganda. The staff exchange programme took place from 11/06/2018 to 25/07/2018. The staff on exchange included:

- Dr. Rabie Asad - Gezira University
- Dr. Ildephonse Nibikora – Busitema University

Purpose of Exchange Programme
To promote regional interactions between faculties in the following thematic areas: phytochemicals, textile and renewable energy.

Objective of Exchange Programme
The objective of the exchange was to encourage regional educational and research in the areas of phytochemicals, textile and renewable energy, through;

- Exchange of faculties/students;
- Collaborative research projects and joint publications;
Joint supervision of postgraduate students;
Exchange of information, library acquisition and publications;
Promotion of lectures, research workshops, symposia, and other activities jointly developed by the universities.

Scope of Exchange Programme
The exchange lasted 14 working days and was limited to the following thematic area: phytochemicals, textile and renewable energy.

Activities during the Exchange Programme
During the exchange period at ACEII-PTRE, the staffs were involved in following activities:

1. Courtesy meeting with the University management and Deans of schools. The purpose of the meetings was to introduce the staff on exchange to university management and other faculties in the concerned schools.

Staff on exchange making a courtesy call to DVC AP &D (acting VC) Moi University: From Left; Dr. Rabie Asad (Gezira University), Dr. Ildephonse Nibikora (Busitema University), Dr. David Njuguna (Moi University), Prof. Ambrose Kiprop (Centre leader ACEII-PTRE) and Prof. Nathan Ogechi (DVC AP&D).
Staff on exchange making a courtesy call to DVC AR&E of Moi University: From Left; Prof. Isaac N. Kimengi (DVC AR&E), Dr. Ihdephonse Nibikora (Busitema University), Dr. Rabie Asad (Gezira University), Prof. John Githaiga (Moi University) and Dr. David Njuguna (Moi University).

Staff on exchange making a courtesy call to Centre leader ACEII-PTRE: From Left is Dr. D. Njuguna (Moi University), Dr. Rabie (Gezira University), Prof. A. Kiprop (Centre leader ACEII-PTRE) and Dr. I. Nibikora (Busitema University).
2. Exchange of partnership document between ACEII-PTRE and Gezira University. During the exchange period, the finalised partnership agreement between the Centre and Gezira University was signed by the VC of both universities and document exchanged. Through this partnership agreement, the two partners committed to undertake the following activities together:

- Faculty collaborative research.
- Faculty and postgraduate student exchange.
- Masters student training.
- PhD student training.
- Joint research publications.
- Sharing of research facilities/equipment.
- Joint proposal application.
- Joint supervision of postgraduate students.
- Exchange of information: books, publications, and other relevant e-resources.
- Hold joint conference, workshops and seminars.
Exchange of partnership agreement documents between Moi University and Gezira University. From Left, Prof. Ambrose Kiprop (Centre Leader ACEH-PTRE), Prof. Nathan Ogechi (DVC AP&D and acting VC), Dr. Rabie Asad (Gezira University), Dr. David Njuguna (Moi University) and Dr. Ildephonse Nibikora (Busitema University)

3. Teaching of postgraduate students:
The staff on exchange gave lecture presentations to postgraduate students. The following topics were covered:

- Research proposal writing by Dr. Ildephonse Nibikora.
  Specific reference was made to;
  - Major components of research proposal
  - Principles of Good research proposal
  - Key questions in preparing research proposal
  - Structure of Engineering Research Proposal
  - Mendeley Desktop software

- Methods and approaches in journal publication process by Dr Rabie Asad
  Specific reference was made to;
  - Motivation for writing paper for publication.
  - General structure of a journal paper.
  - Journal Index ‘impact factor’ and its calculation.
  - Cover letter for article submission and re-submission.
  - Review process and response to reviewer’s comments.
  - Choosing ISI Journals for your publication.
  - Understanding the style of top quality paper.
  - Writing a good quality journal paper.
  - Know some common mistakes in writing.
Dr. Ildephonse Nibikora from Busitema University giving a lecture to masters students at Moi University.

Dr. Rabie Asad from Gezira University giving a lecture to masters students at Moi University.
4. Postgraduate students research guidance
The staff on exchange attended presentation by MSc students on their research project. They provided useful guidance to the students and opportunities for joint supervision in future were agreed upon. The research projects covered the following topics:
- Development and production of bio-composite
- Modelling and simulation of manufacturing processes in garment factories
- Production of hybrid composites for packaging purposes

Staff on exchange attending master’s students research workshop: Dr. Nibikora (Busitema University) and Dr. Rabie (Gezira University).

Group photo: Staff on exchange meeting master’s students to discuss their research projects: Dr. Nibikora (Busitema University) and Dr. Rabie (Gezira University).
5. Research facilities tour
The staff on exchange toured textile laboratories at Moi University and at Rivatex East Africa Limited (REAL). The purpose of the tour was to show case the potential of the ACEII-PTRE as an epicentre for postgraduate training. They also toured REAL a facility that offers internship and research avenues for postgraduate students majoring in engineering and energy studies.

6. Short course training
The staff on the exchange attended five day training on programme development and curriculum delivery sponsored by ACEII-PTRE. The following topics were covered during the training:

- Quality assurance in higher education.
- New development in quality assurance for global competitiveness.
- Globalization of learning.
- Introduction to competence based and active learning.
- Competence based and active learning.
- Proposal and thesis quality.
- Curriculum and course design, programme structure, standards.
- Ethics and academic integrity in teaching and research.
- Distance education: using technology for efficiency.
- Effective supervision of postgraduate students.

Staff on exchange attending a short course on programme development and curriculum delivery: From Left is Dr. Rabie (Gezira University), Dr. M. Induli (KIRDI), Dr. Nibikora (Busitema University), Dr. F. Nyamwala (Moi University), Prof. Kiprop (Centre leader ACEII-PTRE), Dr ABS Nyoni (National University of Science and Technology), Dr. J Makatiani (Moi University), Dr. D. Njuguna (Moi University), Dr. R. Ramkat (Deputy Centre Leader ACEII-PTRE), Dr. J. Cherutoi and Ms Naomi (Centre Administrator, ACEII-PTRE).
7. **Staff collaborative research**

During the exchange period, two collaborative researches were initiated between ACEII-PTRE faculty and the visiting faculties. A template was developed for writing and applying for research grants from the Centre and other funding agencies.

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Report prepared by

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