

# **AAUN AUSTRALIA AFRICA** UNIVERSITIES NETWORK **NSW Members Day**



## **Knowledge Partners**

**11 July 2017**

***08.30 Registration & Arrival Tea \* Cocktail Reception from 4 pm***

**Venue: University of New South Wales  
Colombo House Theatre 1 and 2  
UNSW Sydney Kensington Campus  
(please visit AAUN website for directions)**

**W: [AAUN Website](#)**

**E: [aaun.events@sydney.edu.au](mailto:aaun.events@sydney.edu.au)**

## **Purpose**

The AAUN Membership is growing, with three new members in NSW joining in the past year. This day intends to introduce researchers and educators with Australia Africa interests, build synergies and critical mass, and debate input to the new AAUN Strategic Plan 2017-20.

We invite you to join in charting mutual advantage and support in African Partnerships. Results will flow to the AAUN Annual Conference and AGM in Perth (UWA) 4-5 September 2017, as part of Australia Africa Week and in association with the Africa Down Under Conference.

## **Outcomes**

We expect this Members Day to establish new alliances, opportunities, programs and projects for our members. A report will go to the [Annual Conference and AGM](#) in Perth on 4 September 2017 to be enhanced by AAUN's broader Australian and African membership.

Some of the newly developed program concepts may qualify for submission to the [AAUN Partnership and Research Development Fund](#) which offers seed fund grants of up to \$10K for a year to build the program. The annual call for proposals opens in October 2017 at the AAUN website.

## **Participants**

All attendees today are from AAUN member universities and encouraged to engage in the discussions so that we achieve consensus and outcomes that place AAUN in the most competitive position in delivering research and education outcomes, mobility and exchange instruments, partnerships with members and external agencies, and the attraction of sustainable funding. We create new opportunities for emerging and established researchers, Australia Award holders and alumni.

## **Speakers and discussants**

For information please see the program on page 5-6 and the biographies & abstracts which will be circulated prior to this day.

## **Focus**

This is a time of substantial and rapid change. At a policy level, we should work with the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals and the COP Climate approach, as well as with Australian and African policy priorities.

In our 5<sup>th</sup> year AAUN works to implement new strengths and reach new members and leadership. What are the needs of our members, and the best way that AAUN can support their success? Our major program areas (see below) must all be globally competitive and locally effective to contribute and to attract sustainable resources:

- Environment
- Agriculture
- Food and nutrition security
- Higher education and institutional development
- Public health in non-communicable diseases
- Entrepreneurism, employment and economic development

## **Format**

### **Session 1**

Brief status review of the Australia Africa policy framework, identifying priorities for Australia Africa partnerships. These should align with the strategic plans, strengths and priorities of AAUN members.

### **Session 2**

A research and education showcase open for 4-5 minute presentations of projects and needs, with exploration of interests, synergies and collaborations. This session will focus on environment, food and nutrition security, including allied areas of public health.

### **Session 3**

A continuation of 4-5 min presentations, focusing on emerging mutual interests. This session focuses on institutional development, education, employment and entrepreneurship.

## **Session 4**

Practical exploration of:

- Current and future AAUN programs
- Development of the next AAUN strategic plan in changing times
- Cooperation of AAUN with other networks (WUN, ARUA, British Council, ACU, RUFORUM)

## **Partners and sponsors**

We are grateful to UNSW for hosting the AAUN NSW Members Day. This meeting is a prototype for similar meetings in other states. Registration is free, thanks to support from Australian Government Agencies (DFAT, ACIAR, and the Department of Education).

## **Dinner**

If you would like to go to dinner at a nearby restaurant we can facilitate and arrange a venue. Please advise by 28 June 2017 via [aaun.events@sydney.edu.au](mailto:aaun.events@sydney.edu.au) or [follow this link](#) for dining options near UNSW.

## **Hotels**

Please visit the [Event Website](#) for accommodation recommendations near the venue.

## **Program**

See pages 5-6. Please note that in the interests of environment and costs here will be no printed copies on the day.

Time	Program
0800	Venue opens
0830	Registration & arrival tea
0915	<b>Opening Plenary Session 1: Australia Africa: Knowledge Partnerships and Priorities</b>
	<p><b>Welcome &amp; Objectives – The UN Strategic Development Goals</b>            Prof John Hearn (AAUN) and Prof Prem Ramburuth (UNSW)            - 5 min each</p> <p><b>Opening comments</b>            Prof Ian Jacobs, Vice-Chancellor and President UNSW            DFAT Representative (TBC)            - 5 min each</p> <p><b>Strategic Objectives of AAUN NSW Members in Knowledge Partnerships in Africa</b>            Mr. David Wise (University of Newcastle)            Prof. Deborah Sweeney (Western Sydney University)            Dr Tim Foster (University of Technology Sydney)            Prof. Prem Ramburuth (University of New South Wales)            Representative (University of Sydney -TBC)            - 5 min each</p> <p><b>Discussion - 20 min (All those attending are experts and invited discussants)</b></p>
1015	<b>Plenary Session 2: Research Highlights</b> <b>Chair: Professor John Hearn, Co-Chair AAUN</b>
	<p>This session will allow up to 6 presentations (30 min total) to introduce researchers and educators working in and with Africa to showcase their projects, attract cooperation, and establish strategic engagement with African partners.</p> <p>The topics in this session will include environment, agriculture, food and nutrition security along with related public health projects.</p> <p><b>Discussion - 30 min</b></p>
1115	<b>Morning tea</b>
1145	<b>Plenary Session 3 - Australia Africa: Competitive Advantages in research and innovation</b> <b>Chair: Professor Prem Ramburuth, UNSW</b>

	<p>This session will allow a further 6 presentations (30 min total), and move towards the competitive advantages of Australia and Africa in international engagement and research addressing mutual challenges.</p> <p>The topics in this session will include institutional development, education, entrepreneurship, employment and economic development.</p> <p><b>Discussion: 30 min</b></p>
<b>1245-1400</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>1400-1530</b>	<p><b>RESEARCH AND HIGHER EDUCATION PRIORITIES WORKSHOP</b>  <b>Chairs: Professor Prem Ramburuth and Professor John Hearn</b></p>
	<p><b>Summary of the Australia-Africa Policy framework, including the Sustainable Development Goals</b> Speaker (TBC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review status and relevance of AAUN research programs (refer to <a href="#">AAUN annual report</a>).</li> <li>• Future priorities and opportunities for cooperation with other networks WUN, ARUA, RUFORUM, ACU, British Council (see <a href="#">strategic plan</a>).</li> <li>• The shape and success of AAUN research and funding strategies in a changing world – what do AAUN members want and need from AAUN 2017-20?</li> <li>• Funding strategies and priorities for sustainability of research and education programs.</li> </ul> <p>Note: this discussion is a consultation and preparation of options for the <a href="#">AAUN AGM in Perth</a> on 4 September 2017.</p>
<b>1530-1600</b>	<b>Concluding Session: Prof John Hearn and Member Representatives Panel</b> <b>Strategic priorities and programs – next steps, funding and any other business</b>
<b>1600-1730</b>	<b>Reception – with light food and drinks</b>